



Growth Group Questions
June 29, 2025
“A Blueprint for the Church”

SCRIPTURE

Acts 2:42-47

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Anne Lamott

"When you pray, you are not starting the conversation from scratch, just remembering to plug back into a conversation that's always in progress."

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Life Together*

"The person who loves their dream of community will destroy community, but the person who loves those around them will create community."

Romans 12:9-13

⁹ Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. ¹¹ Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. ¹² Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. ¹³ Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

1 Peter 3:15-17

¹⁵ But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. ¹⁷ For it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.

QUESTIONS

1. In Acts 2:42-47, we read that the members of the early church devoted themselves to four things. What does it mean to be devoted to something?
2. Pastor Paul said that the members of the early church had a posture of learning. What does that mean?
3. Pastor Paul spoke of the importance of community to the early Christians. When you think about "community," what comes to your mind, and why do you think community is important for us as Christ followers?
4. Carefully read through the quote about community from Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Paraphrase or restate this quote in your own words to clarify what it says to you.
5. In Acts 4:32, Luke tells us that the people were devoted to prayer. What does it mean to be devoted to prayer?
6. Pastor Paul said that what enabled the early church to succeed, besides the power of God and the power of the Holy Spirit, was the peoples' generous nature and their extension of hospitality to others. What does it mean to be generous?
7. What does the Bible tell us about generosity?
8. How did Jesus model generosity?
9. What does it mean to practice hospitality?
10. Pastor Paul said that the message of generosity, hospitality and mercy is always louder than any message of this world. What does that mean to you?

PASTOR PAUL'S SERMON QUESTIONS

1. Is there an area in your life where you can work on being more devoted to God?
2. Where can you "practice hospitality" this week?