

*ACTS

The Continuing Work of Jesus

*Acts 2:42-47

A Spirit-Created Community

⁴² They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

⁴³ Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ and they *began* selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need.

⁴⁶ Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

(Acts 2:42-47)

Spirit-Created Community

Devoted to these things...

1. The Apostles' Teaching

- content – the life, ministry, teachings, death and resurrection of Jesus; both as instruction for believers and proclamation to unbelievers
- the apostles were Jesus' authoritative spokesmen, accredited with signs and wonders

Spirit-Created Community

Devoted to these things...

1. The Apostles' Teaching

- today, we devote ourselves to the written deposit of the apostles' teaching – the Scriptures

Spirit-Created Community

Devoted to these things...

2. The Fellowship (*koinonia*)

- refers to the profound relationship we share in Jesus produced by the Holy Spirit
- the sharing of finances and material goods to meet the needs of others is the most common expression of "fellowship" in the Bible (cf. 2 Cor. 8:4; 9:13; Rom. 15:26; Phil. 1:5)

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Devoted to these things...

3. The Breaking of Bread

- refers to the common meals shared by the disciples together
- these meals were associated with teaching, prayer and praise (maybe a form of "the Lord's Supper" – 1 Cor. 11:17ff)

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Devoted to these things...

4. The Prayers

- refers to corporate prayers both at the temple and from house to house