# Follow Me

A Disciple Deepens Within the Faith Family

The Discipleship Journey

## Acts 2 ESV

42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. 43 And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44 And all who believed were together and had all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need

## Acts 2 ESV

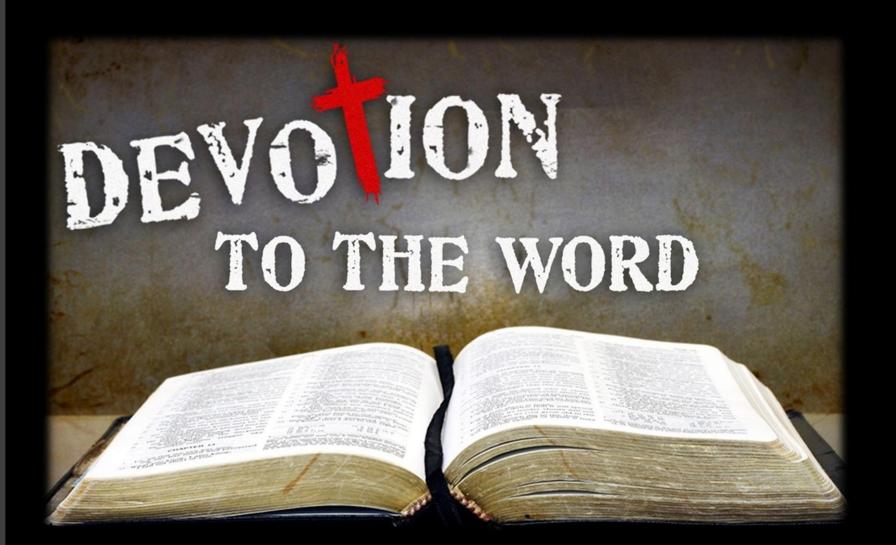
46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

## The Point

The church is not a place to go or an event to attend.

The church is a people to belong to.

All kinds of people gathered for God, by God, to Love God and love one another... to the glory of God.



## Devotion to God's Word

- The early church was deeply committed to the apostles' teaching.
- God's Word is living & active our guide through life.
- 12 For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

  (Hebrews 4:12 ESV)

## Devotion to God's Word

- True discipleship is built on God's truth, not personal opinions or traditions.
- 16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17 ESV)
- Studying Scripture together builds unity & shared faith.

## Devotion to God's Word

- God's Word convicts, corrects, comforts & shapes our hearts & minds.
- 22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. 23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. 24 For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. 25 But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing. (James 1:22-25 ESV)



## Fellowship With One Another

- Fellowship (Greek: koinonia) means sharing life together, not just social time.
- We are called to be a spiritual family, not just churchgoers.
  - 4 For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, 5 so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. (Romans 12:4-5 ESV)

## Fellowship With One Another

 Sharing meals, conversation, joys & burdens brings us closer together.

## 2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. (Galatians 6:2 ESV)

- Breaking bread includes both hospitality & remembering Jesus through communion.
- The church should be a place where everyone is known, cared for & prayed for.

## WORSHIP TOGETHER

PRAY together

## Pray & Worship Together

- Prayer connects us with God & strengthens our bonds with each other.
- Even Jesus asked others to pray with Him in His time of need.
- Prayer isn't just for emergencies it's a daily rhythm for believers.

(Philippians 4:6-7)

## Pray & Worship Together

6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

(Philippians 4:6-7 ESV)

 Worship reflects hearts full of gratitude & joy, not complaints.

## Pray & Worship Together

 Spirit-filled believers are marked by praise, unity & generous hearts.

18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, 19 addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, 20 giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, (Ephesians 5:18-20 ESV)

## **Practical Application**

- Read a passage of Scripture daily & reflect on God's faithfulness.
- Join or lead a small group Bible study within your senior facility.
- Share a meal with someone new in your community this week.
- Ask someone, "How can I pray for you today?"

## **Practical Application**

- Choose gratitude each morning & thank God for three blessings.
- Attend worship services regularly & invite others to come along.
- Encourage others with Scripture verses & personal stories of God's work.

## **Discussion Questions**

- What does it mean to you that the church is a people, not a place?
- How has studying God's Word impacted your walk with Jesus?
- What are some meaningful ways you've experienced Christian fellowship?
- Why do you think it's important to pray for & with one another?
- How can we grow closer as a faith family in this community?

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