

## INTRODUCTION

Opening an old photo album often stirs something deeper than nostalgia. Images of simple moments of life together remind us of a time when connection came easier and community felt closer. In Acts 2, God invites us to look at a different kind of photo album – the story of the first church. What we see is a group of believers who were devoted to four main things: the apostles' teaching, fellowship, the breaking of bread, and prayer. This picture is not just meant to inspire us. It is meant to show us how God designed the church to live.

Many people have experienced salvation, but not all have moved into living a fully devoted Christian life. When God's people aren't committed to practically living out their faith, it becomes hard to tell the difference between those who are simply attending church and those who are truly living as the church. The early church did not treat faith as something that only happened once a week. Their faith shaped how they lived every day. They learned God's Word together. They shared meals and spent time together. Because of this, they experienced awe, joy, generosity, and unity. Needs were met, relationships were strong, and God continued to save people and add them to the church.

This passage challenges us to stop wishing for the "good old days" of the church and start living out God's design today. The same practices still matter: teaching, fellowship, breaking bread, and prayer. God is calling us to be more than church attenders. He is calling us to be devoted followers who grow together and live out our faith every day.

## GETTING STARTED

1. What's your favorite memory from the "good old days" of your childhood?
2. When you think about "community," what positive or negative experiences come to mind?

## LET'S GET PERSONAL

1. Which of the devotions in Acts 2:42 (teaching, fellowship, breaking bread, and prayer) feels strongest in your life right now? Which feels weakest?
2. What fears, habits, or past experiences make it difficult for you to fully engage in Christian community?
3. In what ways has God used other believers to strengthen, correct, or encourage your faith?

## TAKE THE NEXT STEP

1. What is one way you can actively serve or support the church body in this season?
2. As you close your time with your group, pray together and ask God to deepen your devotion to His Word, strengthen your love for one another, and help you live out your faith with consistency.
3. ***Want to dig deeper?*** Take a look at the following passages: Acts 2:42-47; 1 Corinthians 1:2, 12:13; Ephesians 2:19; 2 Corinthians 4:4; Galatians 3:29; 1 Timothy 4:13, 16; 2 Timothy 2:2; Hosea 4:6; 1 Peter 2:2; Romans 12:2; James 1:22; 1 John 1:3; Hebrews 10:24-25; Mark 6:34-37; 1 Corinthians 10:17; Matthew 18:20.

## RENEW YOUR MIND

*'They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.'* - **Acts 2:42**