

SERMON NOTES

SUNDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER - 9AM SERVICE

ACTS 2 : 42-47



A RENEWED HEART BRINGS A RENEWED LIFESTYLE

- Acts 2:42 talks about a church full of new converts who have recently discovered the good news, living in Harmony and obedience. Can you remember when you first encountered God? Share with your small group what you remember of this time.

Were you excited?

What did your life look like?

How did you respond to your encounter with God?

- When our Hearts are renewed by the Gospel and the Holy Spirit, our lifestyle should be renewed as well. Go through each of the verses together and reflect on whether our modern lifestyle reflects what God lays out in Acts as an example of the healthy church.
- a. Verse 42 says the new church was devoted to the apostles teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. What does it mean to you to be devoted to something? Would you consider yourself devoted to the bible or to fellowship?



SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

- b. Verse 43 says that the spirit was moving in power - we cannot twist God's arm to make him perform miracles for us, but we can have an openness in our hearts to see him move and boldness to ask him for miracles. Do we pray boldly to see the spirit move? Can you think of a time you have seen the spirit move in power - can you share this with your small group for their encouragement?
- c. Verses 44-45 talk about the disciple's attitude of generosity, adopting a "what's mine is yours" lifestyle. Is this true of us? What would it look like practically for us to adopt this kind of lifestyle? Is there a way you can be generous with your time or your money right now that you feel called to?
- d. Verse 46 describes a church who ate together Daily with glad and sincere hearts - are you hungry for fellowship and community or does it feel like a chore at the moment?
- e. Verse 47 says that the Lord added to their number daily - are we a people who are welcoming of newcomers, who are looking outwards at people coming into our community?
- We know that we cannot live a renewed life without God at work in our lives through his Holy Spirit - See Romans 12:2, Galatians 5:22-23

In John 4:7-15, Jesus offers the woman at the well "Living Water." and says that those who drink the water he has will never thirst again

Can you remember a time when you tried to "do church" from your own strength - what was it like?

Living a renewed lifestyle comes from the transformation of the spirit allowing us and motivating us to obedience to the teachings of Jesus - but we must still choose keeping and submission to him.

To Close - pray for one another that the Holy spirit would continue his work - repent of where we have not been obedient and look for opportunities to bless one another and press into the word, and fellowship.