

**ACTS: The Story of Christ's Work Continues**  
**[His Work 1:1 - His Witnesses 1:8 - His Purposes 13:36]**

## **Discussion Questions for Sunday, September 20, 1015**

### **"The First Church, Part 3: The Breaking of Bread" (Acts 2:41-47)**

*(The following is a brief recap of the main point of the sermon as well as some questions to foster discussion. Feel free to generate your own discussion questions for your group as well.)*

A church devoted to Christ is passionate about worship in all of life.

READ. Acts 2:41-47.

There is always the temptation to abandon simple devotion to Christ. As Paul said in 2 Cor. 11:3 "I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ." What can believers do today to avoid the deception and diversions of the world?

Acts 2:42 Review the first three of the Four passions of a church devoted to Christ.

First was THE APOSTLES TEACHING: A Church devoted to Christ is passionate about God's Word. They focused on the Word and did not deviate from it. As a Result: Acts 6:7 the word of God continued to increase, the number of the disciples multiplied greatly... Acts 12:24 But the word of God increased and multiplied. Acts 19:20 the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily.

Second was FELLOWSHIP: A church devoted to Christ is passionate about caring community. 2:44 all who believed were together and had all things in common. 2:45 selling their... belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. Their fellowship was Unified, Generous, Inclusive, Honest.

Probably the biggest AHA MOMENT you can have regarding fellowship, it is about giving; it's NOT about GETTING BUT GIVING. If you want to experience true fellowship, you must be a giver.

Third, THE BREAKING OF BREAD

Three aspects of their common life together, three aspects of their whole life worship. Daily worship in all things...public and private.

1. Keep following Jesus. 2:46 day by day, WORSHIPPING together & breaking bread in their homes... Continue to do what Christians do. TOGETHER. Do all the things you know Christians are supposed to DO because of Jesus and because of who He has REMADE US TO BE!!! God's Word. Fellowship. Worship.

(Small groups...Large groups vs. individualistic mindset)

SMALL GROUPS...Our worship is helped or hindered by the closeness of our associations with others. Basically if we are knowing and growing with each other in small groups that will make our worship gatherings all the more rich and full as we come to the table transparent and connected.

CARIBINERS: How is Christian Fellowship like a carabiner? (Those awesome things that help hold you when you're climbing on the mountain.) If you care for your fellow brothers and sisters in God's family you will care enough to not leave them hanging. You will hold onto them. You won't let people fall through the cracks. You will help them. You will care for them and share with them. You will make sure you are part of a local fellowship of believers that actively cares for one another. You will initiate and engage in real acts of caring with real people who know the real you. How does Philippians 2:1-11 help us did ourselves of the individualistic mindset?

2. Keep remembering Jesus. Just as the early church did with the breaking of bread. Continue to remember the Cross.

How does coming TO THE TABLE THINKING IT IS not ABOUT US AND OUR LIFE but ABOUT ALL OF US AND OUR COMMON LIFE TOGETHER IN CHRIST transform your interactions with fellow believers? (Savior not Self) SAVIOR ADORATION VS SELF ABSORPTION...

THE TEST OF TRUE WORSHIP: Are you adoring the Savior or absorbed with yourself?

Are you a CONTRIBUTOR or a CONSUMER? Fill your mind with God's character, form your worldview by God's truth, focus on the biblical meaning and personal implications of the Gospel.

3. Keep declaring Jesus. How does living CORAM DEO leads to more praise) CORAM DEO... literally means before the face of, God. Living Coram Deo is to live your life in God's presence, under His authority, for His glory. 2 Cor. 5:14 For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all...that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

How is an attitude of daily worship in all things CONTAGIOUS?

What are the implications of living before unbelievers unapologetically doing what Christians do (like the first church did) as opposed to trying to blend in with the world (what we often do)?

Which elements of corporate worship do you see underserved in the church today and what can we do to fix that? Read the Word, preach the Word, pray the Word, sing the Word, see the Word (in the ordinances).