

THE BOOK OF ACTS

welcome to the journey

Session (2): 'Presence'

IN - helping a sense of belonging...

Who have been some of the people who have been most influential in shaping you?

In what places / people / situations have you felt most accepted or 'at home' with?

UP - hearing from God and growing...

What words would you use to describe what church should be like? (What single word would you put first?)

In Acts 2 passage Luke writes that the early church was devoted to a number of things:

The believers were devoted to the apostles teaching. What things have most helped you learn in your knowledge of the Bible (sermons? discussions with others? Christian books? Bible Study notes?)

They were devoted to fellowship. What does the word 'fellowship' mean to you? What are some of the costs and benefits of fellowship?

In both passages the believers share their possessions with each other. What is your response to the idea of the believers 'sharing all their possessions'? What encouragement and challenges do you take personally from this.

The believers were devoted to the breaking of bread and of prayer. What does communion mean for you? What about prayer?

OUT - impacting others...

If someone were to describe the things that you were devoted to, what would you want them to include? How might you ensure that people you know see these devotions?

What might you put in place to deepen those devotions?

'God added to their number daily' Who would you ask God to draw into the church here in Hazlemere or into your Life Group. Spend some time praying for these people.

BIBLE READING:

Acts 2:42-47;

The Fellowship of the Believers

42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Acts 4:32-36

The Believers Share Their Possessions

32 All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. 33 With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all 34 that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales 35 and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

36 Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement"), 37 sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.

**LIFEgroup
Notes**