

SESSION 4: WHOLEHEARTEDLY COMMITTED

Passage: Acts 2:42

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Key Idea: **Committed to Learning God's Word.**

The apostles' teaching

As Christians, we should be devoted to growing in our knowledge of God's Word. The Bible has been given to us by God so that we have all that we need to serve Him, and continue to know Him more deeply.

Psalm 1:1-2

*Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, **2** but whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law day and night.*

Discussion Questions

1. How will you personally apply the principle of devoting yourself to biblical teaching in your daily study of God's Word?
2. Identify one aspect of the apostles' teaching that you would like to dive deeper into and commit to seeking additional resources or guidance to understand it better.
3. How can we hold one another accountable in remaining devoted to the apostles' teaching, especially when distractions and busyness arise?

Key Idea: **Committed to the Community of God's People**

And to fellowship

God has created us as relational beings. We were created for community! For the Christian, community is where we can grow in our faith, be encouraged by others, and be held accountable to live in a way that is honoring and pleasing to God.

Hebrews 10:24-25

*And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, **25** not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*

Discussion Questions

1. Discuss the significance of fellowship among believers. How does genuine community strengthen our faith and witness to the world?
2. How can we foster an environment of openness and vulnerability in our fellowship, where people feel comfortable sharing their joys and struggles?
3. How can we practically extend the fellowship beyond our small group meetings and be more intentional in caring for one another throughout the week?
4. As opposite as it may seem, the busier our lives are the more we need to prioritize fellowship with other Christians. Discuss this as a group as well as potential implications.

Key Idea: **Committed to Remembering God's Work**

The breaking of bread

As Christians, we need to continually go back and be reminded about the work God has done in rescuing us from sin and death. The Lord's Supper, or communion is one of the ways we do that. Through the elements, we reflect on the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, and it should foster in us a spirit of gratitude and thanksgiving.

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

*For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, **24** and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." **25** In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." **26** For whenever you*

eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Discussion Questions:

1. In what ways can we practically apply the principle of breaking bread together, both in a literal sense and as a symbol of unity and communion in Christ?
2. Choose a specific act of service or kindness to carry out together as a small group, demonstrating your commitment to breaking bread and fellowship.
3. Besides observing the Lord's Supper together, what are some other ways we can remind one another of how God is working in our lives today?

Key Idea: **Committed to Praying to God**

And to prayer

Prayer is our opportunity as Christians to get to talk to God and bring to Him all of our thoughts, concerns, and struggles. This serves as a reminder for us that we are dependent on Him, and helps us in aligning our hearts to the will of God.

Philippians 4:6-7

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. **7** And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

Discussion Questions:

1. Share a testimony of a time when prayer played a significant role in a breakthrough or answered need in your life.
2. In what ways can we cultivate a culture of prayer within our small group, supporting and interceding for one another?
3. Reflect on the quality of your prayer life. What steps can you take to prioritize and improve your prayer habits?

4. Share a time when God did not answer your prayer the way you had hoped. How did God show Himself both good and faithful despite not giving you the answer you wanted?

Leadership Resources:

<https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/acts-2/>

<https://www.workingpreacher.org/commentaries/revised-common-lectionary/fourth-sunday-of-easter/commentary-on-acts-242-47-4>

Additional Questions for Consideration:

1. Why do you think the early believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching? What can we learn from their example in our pursuit of spiritual growth?
2. How can prayer be a unifying and transformative force within our small group and the broader Church, as seen in Acts 2:42?
3. Share personal experiences of being devoted to the teaching of God's Word, and how it has impacted your understanding of the Christian faith.
4. Discuss the challenges of maintaining genuine fellowship and community in today's fast-paced and individualistic culture. How can we overcome these challenges?
5. Reflect on the importance of regularly celebrating the Lord's Supper as a means of remembering and proclaiming Christ's sacrifice. How can we make it more meaningful in our gatherings?
6. Share examples of how being devoted to the apostles' teaching has led to spiritual growth and transformation in the lives of believers you know.
7. Discuss the balance between structured teaching and organic discussions in our Bible study meetings. How can both approaches be valuable for our growth?
8. As a group, brainstorm ways to incorporate the principles from Acts 2:42 into your Life Group and make an impact on those around you.
9. Consider someone in your small group who might be going through a challenging time. How can you intentionally reach out to offer support and encouragement through prayer and practical help?

10. Share with the group a specific teaching from the apostles that has had a profound impact on your faith and worldview.
11. Identify any barriers that might hinder you from engaging fully in fellowship and brainstorm solutions to overcome them.
12. Reflect on the times when you have personally experienced the power of prayer within your small group. How can you keep fostering this spiritual connection?