

BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS...

Opening...

- What is your favorite spiritual practice?
- Pray for this time in God's Word— that we would hear from the text and from each other as the Holy Spirit leads us!

Background...

- **Skim Acts 1:1-2:35.** What key events have just happened?
- **Read Acts 2:36-41.** The church goes from about 120 to 3000 in one day! What problems or concerns might this situation create for this community? What opportunities?

Study...

- **Read Acts 2:42-47.**
- According to verse 42, what things did these new believers "devote" themselves to and why?
- How do each of these components meet a different growth need in their lives?
- What else did these new believers do? What was their attitude?
- What effect did this new community have on those around them? Why was that, do you think?

Think about it...

- How is First Pres like this early church? How is it different? (*think about the FP mission of knowing, loving, blessing*)
- What are some ways our congregation (or the Church in Kern County or in America) could express the kind of devotion that leads to transformation as we see in this passage?
- What personal practices could **you** incorporate into your own life to live more fully into God's kingdom and his Church?
- Pray that we could be this kind of community of faith in our world today!

Acts 2:36-41

36 "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." **37** When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" **38** Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. **39** The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call." **40** With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." **41** Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

Acts 2:42-47

42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. **43** Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. **44** All the believers were together and had everything in common. **45** Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he 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.