

Acts 2:42-47

The One Word Key for Almost Everything Physically/Spiritually, Personally and Collectively

Acts 2:42-27 Describes the First “First Church”

Led by the Apostles, with a Core Made Up by the 120
and 3000 Brand New “Born-Again” Believers in Jesus Christ

The Big Question

What Did the Apostles Do with/for this Church?

The Biblical Answer

They Focused on a Balanced Involvement in Four Fundamental Functions

Christ-Centered Functions v42

(1) The Apostles’ Doctrine: Teaching of the Word

God Speaks to Us

(2) Fellowship: Interaction between Believers that is Mutually Edifying

We Commune with Other Christians

(3) THE Breaking of Bread/the LORD’s Supper: Worship

We Commune with God

(4) Prayers-Seeking/Submitting to God’s Will

We Speak to God

The KEY to the 1st Church is

The KEY for Every Church-BALANCE in Four Fundamental Functions

Confirmation Through the Apostles v43

God marks/validates new phases of His program with unique miracles. This is seen during the foundational generation of the NT Church as described by the Book of Acts. As we read the book we must remember the specific purpose and the unique historical context in which these signs and wonders took place.

“Communion” to the Max v44-45

Narrative literature in Scripture while always accurate in what it records is often descriptive not prescriptive. A classic example is found here. The “situation on the ground” necessitated this common pot living arrangement, and the spiritual dynamics of the “spankin’ new 1st Church” was conducive to it but:

- this is not seen in the other local churches described in the Book of Acts
- this is never commanded in Acts or the rest of the New Testament
- the Epistles (all written to local churches/church leaders) make it clear this was not a precept/pattern to be followed by all churches

Contagious Faith Lived Out in the Real World v46-47

The lives that believers live....are the first “Bibles” many in our SOI (sphere of influence-people who know us/with whom we have a connection and credibility) will read...may our lives OUTSIDE of “the church” reveal (not conceal) Whose we are and who we are in Him. National revival will not start in a Christian church service, but rather in/through Christlike-service lived outside of the walls of churches by spiritually healthy/consistent grace-filled Christian believers.

Take This To Heart

The KEY to the 1st Church is The KEY for Every Church
BALANCE in 4 Fundamental Functions

Q1: Do we know what they are/what they involve?

Q2: Are we committed to a balanced involvement in all four?