September 26, 2010

A glimpse of the church in Acts 2:42-47...

Defining Characteristics:

- Learned the Word
- Lived Life Together
- Lived Generously
- Prayed
- Welcoming

NEXT STEPS

Use these study questions to turn a message into a conversation. Join with a life group and continue to grow by using these study questions this week.

MY STORY

To be part of a church (community) like the one described in Acts 2, takes personal involvement in each other's lives.

What has been some fears or barriers that may have kept you from fully joining in? How can you overcome them?

What role have others played in helping or hindering your ability to live in community?

Real Life "To-Do" List...

- 1. Ephesians 4:2 Who am I putting up with?
- 2. 1 Peter 4:9 Who am I showing hospitality to?
- 3. Galatians 6:2 Who am I forgiving?
- 4. Colossians 3:13 Whose burdens to I help bear?

Look over the "defining characteristics" of the church found in Acts 2:42-47 from your sermon notes.

Which of these define us well as a community and which ones do you think we need to focus on? How can you help?

GOING DEEPER

This weekend Ric and Jeff mentioned that there are over 30 "one another" commands in the New Testament that are hard or nearly impossible to fulfill in a large group setting or by yourself. Here are a few of them. After reading each verse below, identify the "one another" command in each one.

• John 13:34-35

• 1 Corinthians 12:25

• Galatians 5:13

Colossians 3:9

• 1 Thessalonians 5:15

TAKING IT HOME

These "one another" commands are best carried out within the framework of a church or group that is small enough for close and accountable relationships.

Are there any steps you need to take to develop these kinds of relationships in your own life? What would be a good next step for you?

Write out your personal "one another" to-do list and pray this week that God would give you the opportunity to put it into practice.

PRAYER REQUESTS

• Hebrews 10:24-25

• Hebrews 3:13