

Small Group Discussion Guide

For the week of August 28 - September 3, 2022

Main Thought and Scriptures:

Immediately following the spiritual awakening that broke out on the day of Pentecost, when three thousand people got saved, the Bible records how the first Christians stepped up in faith and the greater revival and awakening that followed. This account of the lifestyle of the early church gives us a pattern to follow to bring about revival and awakening today.

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.” (Acts 2:42-47 NIV)

From this text, we glean several principles on how we can step up in faith today.

1. Be devoted to the Word of God. (v. 42, 46)

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching... Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts...”

- The Word reveals God’s love to us and His purpose for us.
- The first Christians met every morning before dawn to worship together and to hear the Word preached. Like them we must be devoted to the Word every day.

2. Be devoted to relational discipleship. (v. 42, 46-47)

“They devoted themselves...to fellowship, to the breaking of bread...⁴⁶They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people.”

- We are shaped by our closest relationships. The early church devoted themselves to one another and developed deep discipleship relationships with one another.
- At Pearlside, we do this through our small groups. Like the early church we must be devoted to growing spiritually through these relationships with one another.

3. Be devoted to prayer. (v. 42)

“They devoted themselves...to prayer.”

- The early church prayed individually and corporately.
- Like them we must be devoted to a lifestyle of prayer.

4. Be devoted to serving and generosity. (v. 44-45)

“All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.”

- The early church was marked by radical sacrifice, service, and generosity such that non-believers were drawn to the Christian community because of their love for one another.
- Like them as we must serve one another and practice generosity within the church and outside the church.

5. The Lord brought the revival and spiritual awakening as a result. (v. 43, 47)

“Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles... And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.”

- Only God can bring revival and awakening, but by our faith and obedience, we can create an environment for that to happen in our church and our communities.

Discussion Questions:

- As you reflect on the main thought, scriptures, and the weekend sermon, what is the Lord highlighting to you and why? Explain.
- How is the Lord challenging you to step up in this season to help bring about the revival and awakening God is calling us to? What practical things can you do to step up in this season?

Prayer:

- Pray for our entire church family to step up in faith in this season, and that lives would be reached for the Gospel through all of us.
- Pray for one person by name whom God is calling you to point to Jesus.

Ready to take your next step? Want to get to know us?

Visit [pearlside.org](https://www.pearlside.org), download our **Pearlside App**, and follow us on Instagram, Youtube and Facebook @[pearlsidechurch](https://www.facebook.com/pearlsidechurch).