

# Why Church?

**Scripture:** Acts 2:42-47

⇒ The primary purpose of a church is to share the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, or making \_\_\_\_\_.

⇒ the second purpose of the church is \_\_\_\_\_ making. We cannot separate the two from one from another. The two go hand in hand.

⇒ They committed themselves to the \_\_\_\_\_ of the apostles. this was something they did on a continuous basis. (Acts 2:42)

⇒ They also committed themselves to \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ with one another. (Acts 2:42)

⇒ \_\_\_\_\_ is in reference to a close \_\_\_\_\_ that was developed between the apostles and the new converts. There are a few important lessons to learn from this.

a. The importance of developing bonds with \_\_\_\_\_ in a church setting.

b. The importance of developing bonds among \_\_\_\_\_ other in a church.

⇒ The Holy Spirit is working in our churches to keep us glued, but the Holy Spirit will not act if we do not ask. The Holy Spirit will not impose. It is the \_\_\_\_\_ that invites the Holy Spirit to keep us together that glues this church group together.

⇒ The first Christian church did more than teach, fellowship, break bread and pray. Acts 2:47 points out that the Lord added to their numbers. This text, when taken in the literal context implies that the believers sat with their hands folded while the Lord did the running around to add souls to the church. We know from other passages in scripture that the church was heavily involved in outreach and missions. Changing of hearts is never our work (thus the statement that the Lord added to their numbers), but we also need to be reminded that God uses us to make Himself \_\_\_\_\_ to earthly people. We are his mouth piece, hands and feet.

⇒ Teaching in a church cannot stand alone. Fellowship in church cannot stand alone. Breaking of bread in a church cannot stand alone. Prayer in a church cannot stand alone. Mission and Outreach in a church cannot stand alone. We need to look at the whole picture. It is when all these elements come together in our \_\_\_\_\_ and eventually into the church, that the body of Christ, the church, can start growing and becoming a healthy church.