

Building a Strong Community Within the Church

Acts 2:42-47 (NIV)

“⁴²They 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.”

I. A strong community is built within the church when there is devotion to the Word of God.

The Word of God teaches the church community how we are to relate to one another.

Acts 2:46a says, *“Everyday they continued to meet together in the temple courts.”*

In order to become a strong community within the church, we must apply the scriptures to our lives.

James 1:22 (NLT) says, *“But don’t just listen to God’s word. **You must do what it says.** Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves.”*

Devotion to the word of God is a personal decision.

Acts 2:42a (NIV) says, *“**They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching**”*

II. A strong community is built within the church when we have regular fellowship with one another.

We build strong community as we share our resources with people in our congregation who are in need.

Acts 2:45 (NIV) says, *“They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.”*

Strong communities are built within the church when its members do life together.

Acts 2:46 (NLT) says, *“They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord’s Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity.”*

When a strong community has been built within the church, we become protective of one another.

III. A strong community is built by praying with and for one another.

Strong communities are built within the church when prayer is at the center of everything that is done.

Consider: *Acts 1:24, Acts 3:1, Acts 6:4, Acts 12:5*

Families who pray together, stay together.

When we build a strong community within the church, the Lord will add people to our congregation.

Acts 2:47b says, “And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.”

Pastor Tony Ransom
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