

Igniting The Fuel Of Fellowship

Sunday, September 15, 2024

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

Big Idea: Fellowship **fuels** spiritual growth and **ignites** the church's vision, spreading **life** in Christ.

Three Ways Fellowship Can Fuel Transformation:

1. Fellowship Fueled by Devotion to Scripture:

Acts 2:42 "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching ..."

People who engage with the Bible four or more times per week experience significant life changes:

- They are **228% more likely** to share their faith with others.
- They are **407% more likely** to memorize Scripture.
- They are **59% less likely** to view pornography.
- They are **30% less likely** to struggle with loneliness.

**Center for Bible Engagement*

2. Fellowship Fueled By Genuine Unity:

Acts 2:43-44 "Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common."

Unity doesn't mean the absence of **conflict; it requires intentional effort—staying connected, forgiving one another and bearing each other's burdens.**

Holding onto resentment, anger or bitterness **grieves the Holy Spirit, and when the Spirit is grieved, there is no life—just hollow, empty religion.**

Ephesians 4:30-32 "And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage, and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

A church that **grieves** the Holy Spirit becomes empty and loses its sense of mission, purpose and joy. Instead of reflecting Christ's love, it becomes a place of tension and division.

3. Fellowship Fueled By An **Expectant Heart of Faith**

Acts 2:43-47

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What Would It Take for FBC Newnan to Look Like Acts 2?

1. **Cultivate a Culture of Awe:**
2. **Radical Generosity:**
3. **Expecting Daily Transformation: Faith and Fellowship: Inseparable**

Hebrews 11:6 *"Without faith, it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him."* This kind of faith only thrives in an environment of true fellowship. When we're in community, we inspire one another to trust God more, to expect the impossible, and to rely on His power rather than our own strength.

Corrie Ten Boom *"Faith sees the invisible, believes the unbelievable and receives the impossible."*