

Acts of Jesus, Lesson 6: A Spirit Filled Church notes

- What according to the Bible is a truly orthodox, reformed, fundamental, Spirit-filled church?
- This area of orthodoxy of practice has probably accounted for more disagreements, fights, church splits and even creation of entirely new denominations than anything else in the church.
- What practices does the truly right church do? What does She look like in practice?
- Everybody has their opinions.
- **Those opinions are not worth hearing or keeping** if they do not line up with this single example of church done right here in Acts.

1. **Let's read about this church with the right practices: Acts 2:42-end.**

- If you had to answer in a single word what God's dream for human beings is, what would you say?
 - The right answer might surprise you: community
 - What about salvation, justification, sanctification? No, they are a means to an end and not the end in itself.
 - Why did God save you ultimately? So, you could be His --- so you could be in community with Him.
 - And, so, we could be in community with each other
 - It is these things that were lost in the fall of Adam and Eve.
- The people God first created; were they rugged, independent, individuals?
- Nothing close; -- What was the only thing not good about God's creation? Adam being alone!
- Eve was made from Adam's rib
 - Upon seeing Eve Adam declared "this is now flesh of my flesh and bone of my bone,"
 - **They were a community of two.**
- Was this the first-place community and oneness existed? Hardly!!
 - Before anything existed, God was eternally One.
 - He has been and will always be an eternal community of three persons in one being.

Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **A tri-community.**

- When God recreates through His Son Jesus, He creates community and oneness: John 17:11b
- **Jn. 17:23** Did you catch the implications of that verse? When we are not in community and Oneness, we fail to convey His image and the message of His Son.

2. **One of the most convincing proofs of the truth of the gospel is the perceptible oneness of His Followers.**

- Not our doctrine or our prayer meetings ----- **These are a means to an end.**
- When doctrine becomes the end, we get legalism, and this is the death of community.
- How doctrinally sound was the church here in Acts 2? ----**NOT VERY!!!!**
- They didn't even know that Gentiles were allowed in the church (Their leaders thought it was a horrible idea!!
- Since community is deeply rooted in the nature of God, the making of community cannot be optional for believers but an absolute necessity.
- **V. 42** = "they were devoted to the fellowship" Does that describe your relationship to the body of Christ?
- If all you do is come to this worship service, you are not having church **V. 42, 44, 46**
- Has this been your experience of church? If not, you're getting gipped!!

If we can't show them a difference, it won't matter what we believe.