

## Being in Community - "Doing Life Together"

*"And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. <sup>43</sup> And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> And all who believed were together and had all things in common. <sup>45</sup> And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup> And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved." Acts 2:42-47 ESV*

When we Read Acts 2:42-47, this gives us an amazing image of why, how and what being in community looked like for Christians. After Jesus' Death and resurrection, the early church were really "doing life together". Imagine being able to experience sharing meals, being amazed about what God is doing among the group, real and genuine generosity, gathering at church and in homes, praising God for any and everything.

Uhhh..Yes please...I would like some of that...

To understand "Doing life together" we must go to the beginning. God created you and I to be in community with each other. God said to Adam, "It is not good for the man to be alone,". So, God made Eve. Together, as man and woman, they would be better than they were separately. This idea extends past marriage and into the community of Christians and the Church. To be able to bring others into our lives is in some ways what we were intended to do.

Four practical ways of Being in community "Doing Life Together."

**Grow together** – Being able to grow and develop our faith takes time and effort. It can easily be done in a vacuum. But there is something about being able to grow and deepen our faith with others. We each have our own journey and perspective and to be able to share with one another, you will find your spiritual growth and development grow exponentially.

**Be active together**– Doing life together doesn't just need to happen when a group is together discussing scripture or a particular study. Sharing a meal, a game night, a hike, a boat ride, a day trip, a vacation! Stay active together. Creating simple opportunities to stay active together doing things each other enjoys can be a way to take things to another level.

**Serve together** – there is just something about being able to help and care for others. There is power in numbers! When a group can come together and serve another, the community, the church. It feels great to be able to be a part of something bigger than ourselves...together.

**Share together** – We each have gifts and talents. We each have material possessions. We each have time to spare (I know this may seem like a hard one). Being in community means being able to share your Time, Talents, and Treasures with others. For each one of this will also look different and that is a beautiful thing. Share what you can, when you can because someone may need it whether they know it or not.