



## Bible Study

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

### "The Beginning of the Church"

Three important things happened after Jesus "rose from the grave." First, He appeared to over 500 people. Secondly, God filled all Believers with the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. And thirdly, the beginning of the New Testament Church. In tonight's lesson we will focus on some important characteristics of the first church in the book of Acts.

1. They taught doctrine. *Acts 2:42a*
  - They shared with others what Christ had taught them.
  
2. They fellowshipped with one another. *Acts 2:42b*
  - As Believers they spent a lot of time together.
  
3. They shared the Lord's Supper with each other. *Acts 2:42c*
  - The Lord's Supper was a reminder of what Jesus did on Calvary.
  
4. They often prayed with each other. *Acts 2:42d*
  - Prayer was a constant practice in the early church.  
(*Acts 1:14; 3:1; 4:31; 6:4; 10:4, 31; 12:5; 16:13, 16, 25*)
  
5. They were generous towards each other. *Acts 2:44-45*
  - They gave their personal belongings and finances to support each other.
  
6. They lived in one accord and joy towards each other. *Acts 2:46*
  - There was a genuine unity among the members.
  
7. They practiced evangelism. *Acts 2:47*
  - Witnessing and sharing their faith was a way of life for these believers.

Brothers and Sisters, because of these and other characteristics the Bible says that the early church turned the world upside down. Churches in America today need to examine ourselves as to why we are not having the same results.