

The Model Church

Acts 2:42-47

MAIN IDEA: One thing that has to be present in the church is community, a sense of family.

The benefits of community are:

1. Belonging
2. Support
3. Accountability
4. Wholeness

List the ways the early church grew a sense of community in Acts 2:42-47.

How did those activities foster a sense of belonging, support, accountability, and wholeness?

What was the response from the outside community as the Spirit grew the church in number and spiritual maturity?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

How would you describe your depth of connections to the body of Christ at DEC?

Are you connecting outside of Sunday services to: a small group, a ministry, serving the needs of others? How can you create opportunities for connection and community?

When thinking about Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, how have you been supported or supported others?

Who in your life is aware of your needs, struggles, successes, and failures as mentioned in Galatians 6:2 and 1 Thessalonians 5:14-15?

1 Corinthians 12:12-31 and Ephesians 4:15-16 clearly state we are each gifted by the Holy Spirit for the building up of the body and have a job to do. How are you using your gifts for the good of the body at DEC?

What barriers hold you back from being in community? What will you do to overcome those barriers?

Pray:

- Thank God for establishing His church, the hope of the world, and for grafting us into His family.
- Ask the Holy Spirit for discernment to see the needs of the church at DEC.
- Ask God to grow us deeper in relationship with Him and others.
- Pray for God to use DEC as an instrument of salvation to the lost as we show the seacoast the beauty of friendship with God and community with others.

REPRODUCE

How are you encouraging your fellow brothers and sisters to engage in community at DEC? How are you helping them to find or create opportunities to connect?

How are you helping others to discover or use their Holy Spirit given gifts for the growth of the church?

KEY VERSES

From the sermon:

- Acts 2:42-47
- Ecclesiastes 4:9-12
- Proverbs 27:17
- Ephesians 4:15-16

Additional verses from the study:

- 1 Corinthians 12:12-31
- Galatians 6:2
- 1 Thessalonians 5:14-15