

The Model Church

Acts 2:42-47

MAIN IDEA: A strong, deep community requires key building blocks to ensure a strong foundation.

1. Togetherness
 - a. Contact (starts at church)
 - b. Connection (continues outside of church)
2. Common Ground
3. Commitment

In Acts 2:42-47, what common ground is at the center of the fellowship the believers experienced? Why is this essential to building community?

Describe the ways you see togetherness and commitment in Acts 2.

Where else in Scripture do you see the importance of togetherness, common ground, and commitment? How do these verses compare to what we see in Acts 2:42-47?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

Read Matthew 7:24-27. What are you building your foundation on? Is your community built on this kind of foundation?

When you reflect on the communities you are a part of, what are the common grounds you stand on? What common ground is the most essential to stand on? How might this look even if there may be conflict within community? Consider Colossians 3:11.

When pursuing and building community, what are your motives? Consider verses such as Matthew 22:37-40, John 13:35, Colossians 3:17.

What could it look like today to continue to foster the activities seen in Acts 2:42-47?

In what ways are you building togetherness in your life? How much are you contributing to the growth of togetherness versus being at the receiving end? Are there changes you need to make to strike more of a balance?

What is holding you back from building connections outside of a Sunday service?
Consider the following:

- Confront it with scripture and prayer
- What is one small step forward you can take toward building connections?
- Ask someone you trust to guide you and/or hold you accountable.

If you are not connected beyond a Sunday morning service, what steps can you take to get connected? Reach out to a pastor, staff member, or greeter for help in finding a way to get connected.

Pray:

- Thank God that he did not create us to be alone, but rather created us for a deep, connected community.
- Ask God to reveal any fears or distractions that may be in your way of building community. Then pray for the Spirit to guide and give you the strength to face those fears and make necessary changes towards building community.
- For opportunities to arise to become more connected to “community.”
- That the Spirit would create an urgency in you and the church to create and build a community like the one we see in Acts 2.

REPRODUCE

Who do you know that is in need of community? In what ways are you helping them to get connected and/or foster that community? Consider:

- Fellow brothers and sisters who have not yet taken the step of plugging into community.
- Non-believers seeking a community to belong to
- Newcomers to DEC

How are you building community outside of your connections at DEC? What people and/or organizations are a witness to or a recipient of the community being fostered at DEC?

KEY VERSES

From the sermon:

- Acts 2:42-47
- Hebrews 10:25
- Philippians 2:1-2

Additional verses from the study:

- Matthew 22:37-40
- John 13:35
- Colossians 3:11
- Colossians 3:17
- Matthew 7:24-27