

Small Group Questions | April 30th, 2017

Serving a Movement: Movement and Its Unity (Acts 2:41-47)

Sermon Recap: Claude spoke on the early Church in Acts. He said that Luke provides a "selfie" of the early church and its unity. This unity centered around four main habitual practices of devotion: the apostles teaching, the fellowship, the breaking of bread, and the prayers. The more they did these things, the more they saw God moving among them and "awe came upon every soul." What would be evident in the Chapel's "selfie" photo today?

Hook: These questions can help introduce the topic.

1. Mirriam-Webster defines 'selfie' as: an image of oneself taken by oneself using a digital camera especially for posting on social networks. Luke didn't have a camera so he wrote it down. How would you compare/contrast the culture of the early Church with that of today's Church?

Look: Read the sermon passage. Answer the following textual questions.

2. What did these four devotional practices lead the early church to do? (It might be helpful to make a list)
3. Where did the early church do these things in verse 46? Why might these two locations be significant?
4. As they devoted themselves to these practices, "awe came upon every soul." Your Bible's footnote reveals that another definition of "awe" is "fear." Claude said this *awe* was for the presence of God among them. How could healthy *fear* lead people to such expressions of love?

Took: Applying the message to our lives.

5. What does your "selfie" (or a look at your calendar) reveal about what you are devoted to?
6. Which of the four devotional practices are you missing from your life? How can you seek to add it? (reminder: the early church practiced these in community)
7. Do you own possessions that are actually owning you?
8. Claude said "something special happens when share a meal together...we share other things too...dreams, hopes, fears, and how we see God moving." Is breaking bread like this missing from your spiritual life? Who could you invite to your home?

Prayer/Verse: "...they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 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 2:46-47