



Outward Church: Church Together

Acts 2:42-47

Church Together:

1. We gather around God's Word.



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Acts 2:42a, 43 (NIV) They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching... 43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.

Church Together:

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2. We do life together.



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Acts 2:42b, 44-46a (NIV) They devoted themselves... to fellowship... 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts...

You will get hurt. I actually think this is part of God's plan for the church (though that does not excuse the one who causes the pain). He wants us to learn to forgive and show grace. This is where it takes true grit, a staunch stomach and a test of a faith. You need to stick it out... When you've done this step, you've found your spiritual family.

- *How to Find a Church*
by Pastor Rick Harrington

Church Together:

1. We gather around God's Word.
2. We do life together.
3. We share meals and take communion.



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Acts 2:42c, 46b (NIV) They devoted themselves... to the breaking of bread... 46 ...They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts,

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4. We pray together.

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Acts 2:42, 47 (NIV) They devoted themselves... to prayer.
47 praising God...

The hallmark of Western civilization has been rugged individualism. Because of our philosophy of life, we are used to the personal pronouns “I” and “my” and “me.” We have not been taught to think in terms of “we” and “our” and “us.” Consequently, we individualize many references to corporate experience in the New Testament, thus often emphasizing personal prayer....

...The facts are that more is said in the Book of Acts and the Epistles about corporate prayer, corporate learning of biblical truth, corporate evangelism, and corporate Christian maturity and growth than about the personal aspects of these Christian disciplines.... Don't misunderstand. Both are intricately related. But the personal dimensions of Christianity are difficult to maintain and practice consistently unless they grow out of a proper corporate experience on a regular basis.

- Gene Getz quoted in *Old Paths, New Power*

Church Together:

The result? We grow.



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Acts 2:43, 47 (NIV) Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. . . .
47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Church Together:

The result? We grow.

a. Fear (v43)

Church Together:

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- a. Fear (v43)
- b. Favor (v47)

Church Together:

The result? We grow.

- a. **Fear** (v43)
- b. **Favor** (v47)
- c. **Faith** (v47)

“Our with-ness aids our witness.”

– Pastor Skip Heitzig

Communion Together

With the **bread**...

“The body of Christ, broken for you.”

With the **cup**...

“The blood of Christ, poured out for you.”



Communion Together

1 Corinthians 11:23-24 (ESV)

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”



Communion Together

1 Corinthians 11:25-26 (ESV)

In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Communion Together

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