

## The Healthy Church: Acts 2:42-47.

### 1. (42) Church Life.

- i. Apostles' Doctrine: The Word Of God, particularly the Acts-Revelation.

**Psalms 119:105** - *Your word is a lamp to my feet, And a light to my path.*

**Luke 4:4** - *But Jesus answered him, saying, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.'"*

**2 Timothy 3:16** - *All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof [challenge], for correction, for instruction in righteousness.*

The apostles taught God's Word and the people learnt, thus we do at Calvary Chapel.

- ii. Fellowship: associating, participating and being involved with each other, family.

**Hebrews 10:25** - *not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.*

There's warmth, strength and safety when we gather to be part of each other's lives. On the contrary, without fellowship we grow cold, we're endangered and weak.

**Ephesians 4:4-6** - *There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.*

We are one Body, filled with the same Spirit, under one Lord, in one faith, guided by one Book, with the same desire to worship God who is our One Father; we're a family.

*I want the whole Christ for my Savior, the whole Bible for my book, the whole Church for my fellowship, and the whole world for my mission field. John Wesley.*

- iii. The Breaking Of Bread: Holy Communion observed in memory of Christ's death. Agape/Love feasts too.

**1 Corinthians 11:26** - *For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.*

- iv. Prayer: communicating with God; unites, strengthens and draws us to God, also a mighty weapon against evil.

**1 Thessalonians 5:17** - *pray without ceasing...*

**Mark 14:38** - *"Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation.*

**Philippians 4:6** - *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;*

A healthy Church is founded on the entirety of God's Word, participating with one another, a constant remembrance of Jesus' work on the cross and prayer.

## 2. (43) The Presence Of The Power Of God.

One of the greatest works God does is changing the human heart from disobedience to obedience, from hatred to love, from darkness to light. The power of God was evident as many miracles, signs, wonders were seen and spread throughout Acts.

## 3. (44-47) Giving; In worship and to meet needs.

The Jews were culturally hospitable; during any major feasts like Pentecost; all visitors were hosted in homes and public places.

***Exodus 25:2** - "Speak to the children of Israel, that they bring Me an offering. From everyone who gives it willingly with his heart you shall take My offering.*

***1 Chronicles 29:6** - Then the leaders of the fathers' houses, leaders of the tribes of Israel, the captains of thousands and of hundreds, with the officers over the king's work, offered willingly.*

With the influx of more than 3,000 believers we see the Christians putting their faith to practice as they generously sold and gave their possessions to meet arising needs.

***John 13:35** - "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."*

***2 Corinthians 9:7** - So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.*

Not Communism, what is yours is mine; not capitalism, what is mine is mine; Christianity, what I have is given by God and I'll share with others.

## 4. Growing: a natural result of health.

And the Lord drew people to salvation and the fellowship of the believers daily; the church grew in faith and numbers.