



Week 4: Grow Together

Acts 2:41-47

A. An Introduction to Acts

1. Importance

- a. A link between the gospels and the epistles.
- b. The first church history ever written.
- c. Covers the first 30 years after Jesus' earthly ministry.

2. Purpose

- a. To show the power possessed by the Apostles through the Holy Spirit.
- b. To show the gradual expansion of the Church partly in numbers, through this power, and partly in geographical extent.
- c. To show how mature believers are to act.

B. Early church characteristics for a growing Jesus movement...

1. It was a church who received.

"Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that

day." They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching..." Acts 2:41(NIV)

2. It was a church of continued fellowship.
"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer." Acts 2:42 (NIV)

3. It was a church who stirred souls.
"Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles." Acts 2:43 (NIV)

4. It was a church who shared ministry.
"All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need." Acts 2:44-45

5. It was a church who was unified.
"Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts..." Acts 2:46 (NIV)

6. It was a church who worshipped God.
"... praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people." Acts 2:47a (NIV)

7. God did the growing.
"And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." Acts 2:47b (NIV)

C. Ten benefits of small groups:

1. Discipleship-Wrestling
2. Study-Learning
3. Curiosity-Answering
4. Accountability-Ironing
5. Shepherding-Caring

6. Evangelism-Bridging
7. Hospitality-Hosting
8. Commitment-Landing
9. Prayer-Articulating
10. Socializing-Intersecting

"Therefore, if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from His love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in Spirit and of one mind." Philippians 2:1-2 (NIV)

D. So now what?

1. Where do I start?

- a. Prayer
- b. The HUB
- c. Connections Director:
tabitha.gessner@cwc.life

2. When?

- a. Groups meet either weekly, every other week, or monthly.
- b. Groups meet mornings, evenings, or weekends.
- c. Groups meet on or off campus.

3. Types of groups?

- a. Grow groups: Spiritual Formation Pastor-
kyle.roberts@cwc.life
- b. Care/support Groups: Counseling Ministries
Pastor-caleb.swartz@cwc.life

4. Resources?

We are very willing to equip and resource your group. A great assistant is RightNow Media with hundreds of thousands of resources. Contact Pastor Kyle Roberts (kyle.roberts@cwc.life) for an invitation.

To begin a relationship with Jesus...

Text: I Choose Jesus to 88202

Next Sunday: All-In: Don't just go to church, be the church-Give Faithfully

