

Acts 2:42-47
June 8, 2025



CONVERSATION STARTERS

- What are some highs or lows you experienced this past week?
- What Scripture has been shaping you recently?
- Where have you seen God moving in your life this week?
- What did you hear in today's sermon OR read in today's passage that you would like to discuss?
- What did you learn about yourself in today's sermon/passage?
- What did you learn about God in today's sermon/passage?
- What convicted you as you listened to today's sermon OR read in today's passage?

INTRODUCTION

As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.

Quatro

What You Need:

One deck of UNO® cards

Set-Up:

1. Remove all special cards from the deck (wilds, skips, reverses, etc.).
2. Shuffle the remaining cards thoroughly.
3. Distribute one card to each student, placing it facedown.

Students must keep their cards hidden and not show it to others.

How to Play:

1. The objective is for students to form "teams." Each team should consist of one student with a red card, one with a yellow card, one with a green card, and one with a blue card.
2. Students are not allowed to ask each other directly about the color of their cards. Instead, they must use indirect clues, such as "Is your card the same color as my shoes?" or "Does your card match something in this room?"
3. Start a timer to record how long it takes. The goal is for all students to work together to form all possible teams as quickly as they can.

4. Once the goal is met, stop the timer.
5. Play multiple rounds and challenge the group to beat their previous records by forming teams faster in subsequent rounds.

Teaching Moment:

Today, we played a game where we had to work together as a team to succeed. To make a “color team,” we needed other people’s help, right? One card couldn’t make a team. In our study today, we’re going to look at how the early church worked together to succeed, too. They came together in community and learned, fellowshiped, and helped make sure that everyone was taken care of. Let’s look at what that looked like.

What do you think it means to work together as a team in Christian community?

DISCUSSION

 ASK A VOLUNTEER TO READ ACTS 2:42-47.

What activities did Luke describe in verses 42-43?

What similarities and differences do you see between this description and how we live as a church today?

Which of the activities listed in verse 42 do you think we do best as a group? Where do we need to grow?

How would you describe the church community’s practice in verses 44-45?

Where else do we see generosity like this in Scripture?

What were the activities of the church in verses 46-47? What was the result?

How would you describe the picture of community we see in today’s passage?

GOING DEEPER

How realistic do you think it is for the church today to look like the first church in heart and attitude?

Why do you think that is important?

APPLICATION

What can we do as a group to grow our community more intentionally?

How have we taken care of those in our body? What are some ways we could do better in the future?

How can living with the heart described in today's passage give us opportunity to share the gospel with others?

PRAYER

Thank God for the example of Christian community in Acts. Ask for His help as your group seeks to intentionally build this type of community within your church.

LOOKING AHEAD

Encourage your group to look ahead as we continue the series on Acts next week.

June 15, 2025 --- Acts 3:1-10

COMMENTARY

Acts 2:42-47

2:42 These four practices—teaching ... fellowship, the breaking of bread, and prayer—provide insight into the priorities of early Christianity. These same practices should be considered normative for the church today. The apostles' teaching was probably similar to Peter's message at Pentecost. That is to say, it focused on making Christ known by appealing to eyewitness testimony and the prophecies of the OT. Early Christians gathered together regularly for edification, prayer, and exhortation. The breaking of bread probably included fellowship meals and participation in the Lord's Supper (1Co 11:17-34).

2:43 Being filled with awe is the response to the works of God in the midst of the people (4:30; 5:12).

2:44-45 As part of their fellowship, the early church practiced a community of goods for a short time. Distribution to members of the faith community took place according to individual need. This practice did not last long, likely

because it was logistically difficult and fraught with potential abuse (see chaps. 4-6).

2:46 Early Christian gatherings took place in two places: the temple and the homes of individual believers.

2:47 The early church was an evangelizing church. Luke recounted that every day the Lord added to those who were being saved. He did not say how this took place, but it appears that evangelism took place primarily through the gathering of Christians in the temple and in individual houses. The crucifixion and resurrection of Christ were at the heart of early Christian preaching, which called for immediate response from anyone who listened.