

**TITLE AND NUMBER:** 130. The fellowship of believers



**REFERENCE AND KEY VERSE(S):** Acts 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 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, praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

**LOOKING FURTHER:** Hebrews 10:25; 1 Thessalonians 5:11

### What does this Bible passage tell us?

Let's pause a moment and reconsider the passage we have just read. This described what happened after the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost. Can you imagine what it would have been like to have been there? The disciples and believers in Jesus, who had previously been hiding for fear of captivity and persecution, were now seen in the Temple Courts every day, sharing the Good News of the Gospel and declaring that Jesus was alive. Some would have actually seen Him (1 Corinthians 15:6) and declared that He was definitely the Messiah.

Imagine three thousand individuals joining the church with more being added every day (v.47b). This joy and excitement was not because they had joined a new club but because they had discovered a new meaning to life. When they became followers of Jesus, their whole attitude and behaviour changed. They had new priorities: they spent time together to learn, worship God and pray; they loved their neighbours; they shared all they had; they ate together remembering all that Jesus had taught them with great excitement. As they praised God, it had a huge impact on all the people around them.

What caused all this to happen? It was the power and presence of the Holy Spirit, who gave hope, confidence and power to enable them to carry out God's will, wherever they found themselves.

The same can be true of us; if we live as those of the early church did, our neighbourhoods can be transformed - including where we are at the moment. God is in the business of transformation, whoever we are and whatever our circumstances.

### Reflections:

- What comes to mind when you think of seeing where you are living changed by God's Holy Spirit?
- Ask God to show you what His plans for you might be. Never underestimate what God can do.
- Pray that you will be devoted to God's Word, to fellowship and prayer.

Write or draw something you read in this Bible Study that stood out to you.



# TRANSFORMATION

Do you have any questions about this week's Bible Study?



How does this week's message apply to your life?



What can we learn about God from this week's passage?



What would you like to ask God this week?



Has God responded to your prayers this week in the way you had hoped for? It's okay to talk to God about this.

