



The marks of a growing church

11 February 2018

Acts 2:42–47
Acts 4:32–37

'Devoted' to a whole new life (*Acts 2:42*)

1. Devoted to the apostles' teaching

"The words I have spoken to you are Spirit and they are life." John 6:63

See also
Matthew 28:20
Ephesians 2:19–20

Miraculous signs (*Acts 2:43*)

. Devoted to the fellowship

'everything in common' (v.44)

'One in heart and mind' (Acts 4:32)

“They came to Hebron fully determined to make David king over all Israel. All the rest of the Israelites were also of one mind to make David King... their neighbours from as far away as Issachar, Zebulun and Naphtali came bringing food on donkeys, camels, mules and oxen. There were plentiful supplies of flour, fig cakes, raisin cakes, wine, oil, cattle and sheep, for there was joy in Israel.” 1 Chronicles 12: 38-40

Claiming your possessions (Acts 4:32 / 2:45)

*"Grace was upon them all. There were no needy persons among them."
(Acts 4:33, 34)*

See also
2 Corinthians 8:7
Proverbs 3:9-10

Together - at home and the temple courts (2:46)

3. Devoted to the Breaking of Bread

'Enjoying the favour of all the people' (v46, 47)

4. Devoted to Prayer

*"And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved"
(Acts 2:47)*

*How can you help people see
life in the church this week?*



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Growth group questions

You will find it helpful to have heard the talk so why not listen at:

<http://leightonbaptists.org.uk/media-links/current-teaching/>

Some of these questions are personal and others are more general. Feel free to pick and choose which questions your group will find most helpful.

1. Read Acts 2:42 – Which of the things mentioned here do you feel you are most devoted to?
2. Read John 6:63 & 66–68. Do you believe we have ‘the words of eternal life’ written for us in the Bible? What does society think? What might be the best way for us to challenge those views?
3. Read Acts 2:44. How do you feel about meeting with other Christians? Do you feel you have ‘everything in common’? Why did these first 3000+ believers?
4. Read Acts 4:33–37, 2 Cor. 8:7 and Proverbs 3:9–10. When it comes to giving, how ‘calculated’ should we be? How might our thinking be different from the first believers?
5. Read Acts 2:46–47.
 - a. How easy do we find it to open up our homes to other Christians? What are the challenges of doing that?
 - b. How does our worship on a Sunday flow and continue into our homes during the week?
 - c. Would people get a glimpse of what the church is like by seeing you at home? Is there anything we can do about that?

Thank God for the fellowship you have with other members of the church and pray for it to grow and develop.