



FINDING OUR ROOTS IN THE COMMUNITY OF GOD

Acts 2:42-47; And they were devoting themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayers. And fear came on every soul, and many wonders and signs were being performed by the apostles. And all who believed were in the same place, and had everything in common. And they began selling their possessions and property, and distributing these things to all, to the degree that anyone had need. And every day, devoting themselves to meeting with one purpose in the temple courts and breaking bread from house to house, they were eating their food with joy and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding every day to the total of those who were being saved.

Introduction

God never designed His people to walk this journey of faith alone. The Christian life was never meant to be a private garden hidden behind closed doors; it was meant to be a living vineyard, intertwined and growing together. **We are rooted, shaped, and sustained in the sacred life of God's covenant family.** The spirit of this age preaches independence. It tells us, "Stand on your own. Define yourself. Build your own truth." But the Spirit of God is speaking a different word to the Church: **"You do not belong to yourself - you belong to My people."**

The Kingdom does not form isolated believers; it forms a holy community. It calls strangers into family, individuals into a body, and wanderers into a household.

In Verse 42, the Bible says that disciples learned faith by living together. As believers, we must learn:

- How to pray by praying together,
- How to worship by worshiping together,
- How to love by serving one another,
- How to follow Jesus by walking with other disciples.

The church became a living classroom of discipleship.

We are tempted to believe we can follow Jesus alone, but **discipleship cannot flourish in isolation.** Some believers are spiritually exhausted because they have tried to carry a communal faith with private strength.

And I believe the Spirit is prophetically calling to His Church today: "Come out of isolation. Come back to the table. Rejoin the family. Put your roots down again among My people, because what I am

about to do in this hour will not be built on solitary Christians, but on a people who are deeply rooted together in Me."

1. Faith is a language learned in community

You do not learn soccer by reading the rulebook; you learn by joining the team. Likewise, Christian spirituality is learned by living among God's people. **Hebrews 10:24-25 NLT** Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. [25] And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

- * We learn prayer by praying with others.
- * We learn worship by worshipping together.
- * We learn forgiveness by practicing forgiveness in the community.
- * We learn grace by receiving and extending grace.

The Church is not merely a gathering place; it is God's training ground for disciples.

1. God grounds us in a story bigger than ourselves

1 Peter 2:9 NLT - But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. **As a result, you can show others the goodness of God**, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

We belong to:

- * The story of Abraham.
- * The story of Israel.
- * The story of the cross.
- * The story of the Church throughout the ages.

We stand in a tradition that is thousands of years old.

When the world says, "Invent yourself," God says, "Remember whose you are."

1. Community is the soil where faith grows

John 15:1-6,8 NLT

"I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener. [2] He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn't produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more. [3] You have already been pruned and purified by the message I have given you. [4] Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you

cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me. [5] "Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing. [6] Anyone who does not remain in me is thrown away like a useless branch and withers. Such branches are gathered into a pile to be burned. [8] When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father.

Community provides a ground for

- * Accountability
- * Encouragement
- * Correction
- * Prayer
- * Shared witness

In a secular culture that constantly challenges faith, God has given the Church as a greenhouse for spiritual growth.

- A tree without roots is vulnerable to every storm.
- A believer without community is vulnerable to every wind of doctrine.

Prayer Line

1. **"Lord, Root Me Again in Your Family"** - Acts 2:42 - "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship..." - Let's repent from isolation and reconnect to God's covenant community. Ask God to break the Spirit of Isolation and to give you a heart for fellowship. Tell God to plant you in His house
2. **"Lord, Make Us a Spirit-Filled Community"** - Acts 2:46-47 - "Every day, devoting themselves to meeting with one purpose... and the Lord was adding every day to the total of those who were being saved." Let's pray for a culture of love and generosity. Let's pray for fruitfulness and Harvest