




NEW LIFE: COMMUNITY
A SERMON ON ACTS 2:42-47




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- What does community look like?

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COMMON FELLOWSHIP

They devoted themselves to the **apostles' teaching** and **fellowship**, to the **breaking of bread** and the **prayers**.

Acts 2:42, NRSV

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COMMON FELLOWSHIP

- Apostolic Teaching
 - Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. (Acts 2:43)

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COMMON FELLOWSHIP

- Fellowship
 - All who believed were together and had all things in common; (Acts 2:44)

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COMMON FELLOWSHIP

- Sharing
 - They would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need ... they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, (Acts 2:45-6)

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COMMON FELLOWSHIP

- Praise
 - Praising God and having the goodwill of all the people (Acts 2:47)

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CONFLICT IN COMMUNITY

- Forming
- Friendly, low conflict
- “members think about leadership and follower roles and who will fill these roles” (Egolf & Chester, 142)

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CONFLICT IN COMMUNITY

- Storming
- Hostile, stressful
- “interpersonal conflict emerges” (Egolf & Chester, 142)

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CONFLICT IN COMMUNITY

- Norming
- Conciliatory, respectful
- “new group roles and rules evolve and are adopted, and group members are more open in their expressions of opinion” (Egolf & Chester, 142-3)

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CONFLICT IN COMMUNITY

- Performing
- Interpersonal conflicts resolved (for now)
- “this allows the group to focus on the task and its completion” (Egolf & Chester, 143)

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GOD'S GRACE IN ACTION

- Roles are not about leaders & followers
 - Learning from each other
 - Looking out for each other
 - Standing with each other
 - Praying for each other

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