

LEARNING WITH LUKE - ACTS 4:31-37 TIME FOR KOINONIA P.1084 PEW BIBLE

Acts 4:32-35 - Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need..

We must have hearts harder than iron if we are not moved by this narrative. In those days the believers gave abundantly of what was their own; we in our day are content not just jealously to retain what we possess, but callously to rob others. They sold their own possessions in those days; in our day it is the lust to purchase that reigns supreme. At that time love made each man's own possessions common property for those in need; in our day such is the inhumanity of many, that they begrudge to the poor a common dwelling upon earth, the common use of water, air and sky. -John Calvin

How can we make the church great again? With mega-unity, mega-grace, mega-power, mega-caring & sharing!

1- Seek Great HARMONY - unity in Christ

Acts 4:31,32 - mega-unity

Acts 2:42-47 - devoted

Ezek 11:19-20, 36:22-32, Jer 31:31-34, 32:36-41 - one

Phil 1:27-2:11 - full accord

The source of this unity was the resurrection power of Jesus, to which the apostles bore witness. -DE Johnson

2- Seek Great GRACE - words & deeds

Acts 4:31 - mega-power

Acts 4:33 - mega-grace

Acts 2:42-43,47 - the Lord

Luke 1:2, Acts 1:2,3,8,22, 2:24,32, 3:15-16, 4:10-12, 19-20 - resurrection

Luke 2:40 - the favor of God

The ancient promise of covenant blessing is being fulfilled in the spontaneous generosity of Jesus' followers. -RC Sproul

3- Seek Great GENEROSITY - meeting needs

Acts 4:34-35 - mega-caring & sharing

Acts 2:44-45 - together in common

Deut 15:1-18 - no poor among you

Luke 16:1-15 - God and money

Rom 11:36, 1 Cor 4:7 - it's all His

Communism says practically, what is yours is everyone's, but Christianity says what is mine is yours. A generous giving spirit permeated this great church. The overall atmosphere was one of great care for one another. -RK Hughes

4- Seek Great EXAMPLES - "the encourager"

Acts 4:36-37 - Joseph Barnabas

Acts 11:24 - a good man full of the Holy Spirit and faith, Acts 9:26-27 - interceding

Acts 11:22-26 - exhorted the church, Acts 13:1-6,43-46,50-52 - missionary labors

Acts 14:22-28--15:35 - companion of Paul. Acts 15:36-41 - mentor of John Mark

2 Cor 8:1-24, 9:1-15 - excel in the grace of giving

God's grace in the growing church creates a community of mutual compassion surpassing human societies. -DE Johnson

5- Seek Great OBEDIENCE - filled with the Spirit

Acts 4:31-33 - great grace

John 17:15-26 - that they may all be one

James 2:1-26, 4:1-4, 5:1-6 - faith and works

1 Tim 6:6-10, 11-16, 17-19 - generous sharing

We build great buildings, but do we build great people? When the church is great, there is great unity as hearts beat together in spiritual oneness, and show great care in helping one another. The world is impacted by this great grace, and there is great power as people come to believe, because they see resurrection life in the church. -RK Hughes

DAILY BIBLE READING ENGAGE~WORD~CHURCH~COMMUNITY~WORLD

10-16 Acts 4:32-37 - koinonia

10-17 Acts 2:41-47 - devoted

10-18 Phil 1:27-2:5 - one accord

10-19 2Cor 9:6-15 - generosity

10-20 Deut 15:1-18 - among you

10-21 1Cor 11:17-34 - together

10-22 Heb 13:20-21 - resurrection

The Spirit of God works the Word of God so the people of God become like the Son of God

♦ How will I be transformed, by God's truth, in the Spirit's power, as I trust & obey?

ACTS of the
Ascended
Lord Jesus Christ