

## All for One; One for All

Acts 2:42-47; The Acts of the Apostles, pp. 70, 71

ave you seen a baptism in your church? Maybe you have been baptized. Were people sad or happy? The early Christians were thrilled because so many people were joining the church.

he disciples were bubbling over with happiness and the wonder of it all. Think of it-3,000 new believers had joined the church in one day!

Many of these new believers were strangers to Jerusalem. They had traveled a long way

far-off places to celebrate the Feast of Pentecost. Most planned to return home as soon as the feast was over. But many now changed their minds. They no

from

believers into their homes. They ate together. They prayed together. They praised the Lord together. Some of the believers were wealthy, some

The Jerusalem believers welcomed the new

were poor. Others had nothing because they had been disowned by their families when they became Christians. Some of the believers sold their property or possessions so they could help others.

Everyone shared what they had.

this world just weren't important anymore. They believed that Jesus had risen from the grave. They believed that He would be coming back soon. And they believed He would take them home to heaven. They were full of hope and love. The Holy

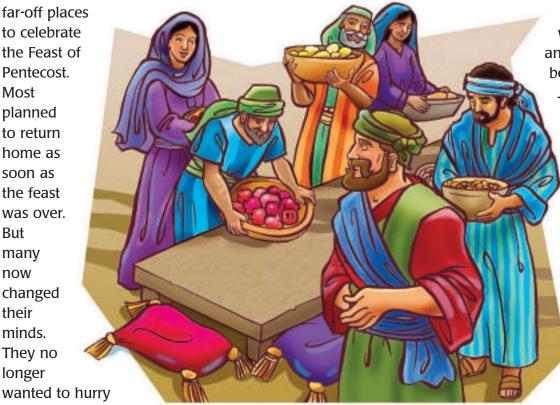
Spirit had filled

the believers.

The things of

They wanted to share this hope and love with everybody. And the Holy Spirit used the believers to work many miracles.

There were no newspapers in Jerusalem in



about Jesus.

longer

home. They wanted

to stay in Jerusalem a while. There they could

learn more about Jesus from the disciples. You

might even say they were hungry to learn

#### The Message

God gives us gifts so we can help others.



"Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men" (Ephesians 6:7, NIV).

those days, no radio, no television. But that didn't keep the news about the early church from spreading. Everyone talked about the good news of the gospel.

"Have you heard about what happened this morning in front of the temple?"

"Remember my next-door neighbor? The one who was crippled from the time she was born? Well, let me tell you what happened to her yesterday!"

"Do you know what I saw?"

The early church members taught the Word of God. They shared gladly with one another. They often ate together. And they shared in the special Communion meal. Every day was a time of prayer and praise. Every day new people heard the story of Jesus. And every

day more people joined the church.

The church of Christ, our church, should still be doing this today. Believers should teach the Word of God and share gladly with one another. We should eat together in fellowship and share Communion services. Together, we should praise the Lord and pray. And the Lord will still add to our number those who are being saved.



### People from all over the world traveled to Jerusalem to

celebrate the Feast of Pentecost



#### SABBATH

The early Christians enjoyed fellowship, spending time together. If possible, meet with another family to do something together. Share your lesson with them.

The early Christians helped one another. Try to help each one in your family today. Thank God for the privilege of helping others.

#### MONDAY

- Read and discuss 1 John 3:17, 18 during worship today. What does God ask us to do? How can you use your hands to help people today? Share your experiences during worship tonight. Ask God to be with the people you helped today.
- Ask your family to plan a picnic or other meal for next Sabbath. Ask if you can invite people to join you.
- Interview an adult church member. Ask how they help in your church. What gifts are they using?

# With your family, read and discuss Acts 2:42-47. List things the early Christians did. Which activity appeals most to you? Which appeals to your family? Do something together that appeals to your family. Ask God to help you.

DRAW Draw a large heart. Write the words of the memory verse on it, then cut it up. Put the heart back together and repeat the memory verse. Use this to teach the verse to your family.

#### TUESDAY

- Read and discuss Acts 2:42, 43 with your family. List the things the early Christians did. Which can you do?
- What made people look in awe at the disciples?

  Look up the word awe, then think of something you are in awe of. Draw a picture of it.
- DO Teach someone something new about Jesus today.
- Find out how many members are in your church.

  Pray for your church members and your pastor.

#### WEDNESDAY

- During worship today read and discuss Acts 2:44, 45. List the things the early Christians did. What do you have to share with someone else? What can you do to help your church's community services program? Ask your family how you can help others.
  - Thank God for all He has given your family. Ask Him to lead you to someone who needs your help.

