

# WHAT'S IT GOING TO TAKE?

ACTS 2:42-47

CHURCH GROUP SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE - OCTOBER 18, 2026

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## SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 2:42-47. Read the full passage together as a group.

## ICE BREAKER QUESTION

What's something you're glad you committed to, even though it took more work than you expected?

## SERMON RECAP

As MBC launches its new five-year vision (to reach one person at a time, start five congregations, disciple 10,000 people, and impact 20 million worldwide), Pastor Nate reminded us that there are no shortcuts to success. The sermon challenged us: are we willing to *devote* ourselves to what this vision will require? Acts 2:42-47 shows us what that devotion looked like in the early church. They were:

- **Devoted to pursuing God.** They continually pursued God with all their time, energy, and affection, specifically through the ministry of the Word and prayer.
- **Devoted to being together.** They worshiped together, shared meals and the Lord's Supper, opened their homes, and gave sacrificially to meet needs. Jesus had made them a family.
- **Together on mission.** Their joy, generosity, and love across differences put the gospel on display.

Pastor Nate summarized it this way: "A church filled by the Spirit of God, devoted to the pursuit of God, and being on mission together with the people of God, will experience the pleasure and power of God."

This isn't a formula that guarantees particular results. It's a call to pursue God expectantly and move toward one another intentionally. That kind of devotion will take sacrifice, but it will also bring the joy of the abundant life Jesus has rescued us to experience.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*Observation: What does this passage say?*

Read Acts 2:42-47 aloud as a group. Let group members share observations before moving into interpretation or application.

- 1) **Their devotion (v. 42).** What four things did these believers devote themselves to?
- 2) **God at work (v. 43).** What was happening through the apostles, and how did people respond?
- 3) **Meeting needs (vv. 44-45).** How did these believers care for one another? What were they willing to give up?
- 4) **Life together (vv. 46-47).** Where and how often did they gather? What words describe their hearts and attitudes?
- 5) **Their witness (v. 47).** How did the wider community regard them? Who was adding people to the church, and how often?
- 6) In one sentence, how would you summarize the life of this church?

*Interpretation: What does this passage mean?*

- 1) **The gospel comes first (vv. 36–41).** This community was born from Peter’s sermon about Jesus’s death and resurrection. Why does it matter that the church grew out of the gospel rather than a strategy? How does that shape our own devotion?
- 2) **Devoted to God (v. 42).** What’s the difference between being interested in God and being devoted to Him?
- 3) **Made into a family (vv. 44–46).** How is their fellowship more than friendship or attending the same service? What does this reveal about God’s purpose for the church?
- 4) **Joy in shared life (vv. 46–47).** Why do you think their generosity and sacrifice came with gladness and praise rather than reluctance?
- 5) **Love that bears witness (v. 47).** Read John 13:34–35. How does our love for one another help the world see who Jesus is?
- 6) **The Lord builds His church (v. 47).** What does this passage show us about our responsibility and God’s power? What role do we play, and what role does God play?

*Application: How can we apply this passage to our lives?*

- 1) **Do we want this?** As you picture the church in Acts 2, what appeals to you? What feels costly? Honestly, do we want our church and our group to look like this?
- 2) **Pursuing God this fall.** Where do you want to grow in your devotion to God? What’s one step you’ll take this fall to pursue Jesus, and what will you need to change to make room for it?
- 3) **Moving toward others.** What most keeps you from deeper relationships in the church—busyness, self-sufficiency, fear, or something else? Who could you take a step toward this week?
- 4) **Sharing the load.** Given this passage, how should we think about serving regularly at MBC, and what might your next step be? What need in our church family could you help meet with your time, money, home, or gifts? Is there a need of your own you could let others help carry?
- 5) **Reaching our “one.”** Who is someone in your life you long to see come to faith in Jesus? What’s one concrete step you can take this week to get to know them better and help them get to know Jesus?
- 6) **Responding together.** What’s one step our Church Group will take together to live out this passage? How can this group pray for you as you take your next step?

## LEADER NOTES

Three next steps to keep in front of your group:

- **Open House** is MBC’s low-pressure orientation for newcomers. It meets Sunday, October 25. Invite a friend you’ve brought to church, or better yet, go with them.
- **Membership orientation** is the first step toward formally committing to MBC as your church family and includes meeting with one of our elders or pastors. It meets Sunday, October 25, and Sunday, November 15, from 1–3 p.m. in room 2400 at Tysons. Register at [mcleanbible.org/classes](http://mcleanbible.org/classes).
- **Church Groups and serve teams** are the two simplest ways to move toward others. To join either, stop by the Connect Room after any Tysons service.

Next Sunday, we begin a new sermon series in the book of Jude.