

# 5 practices of a LIVING CHURCH

<sup>41</sup> So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls. <sup>42</sup> They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup> Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> And all the believers were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup> and they would sell their property and possessions and share them with all, to the extent that anyone had need. <sup>46</sup> Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

**ACTS 2:41-47 NASB**

## A CHURCH THAT IS ALIVE:

### 1. GATHERS TO CONNECT WITH GOD: WORSHIP

They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

**ACTS 2:42 NASB**

praising God and having favor with all the people.

**ACTS 2:47 NASB**

Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles.

**ACTS 2:43 NASB**

Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

**PSALM 103:1 NIV**

The human spirit is the lamp of the Lord that sheds light on one's inmost being.

**PROVERBS 20:27 NIV**

The one who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.

**JOHN 7:38 NASB**



## A CHURCH THAT IS ALIVE:

### 2. BUILDS ITS FOUNDATION ON GOD'S WORD: DISCIPLESHIP

They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles.

**ACTS 2:42 NASB**

<sup>8</sup> Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers and elders of the people, <sup>9</sup> if we are on trial today for a benefit done to a sick man, as to how this man has been made well, <sup>10</sup> let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead by this name this man stands here before you in good health. <sup>11</sup> He is the stone which was rejected by you, the builders, but which became the chief cornerstone. <sup>12</sup> And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among mankind by which we must be saved."

**ACTS 4:8-13 NASB**

## A CHURCH THAT IS ALIVE:

### 3. PROTECTS UNITY THROUGH LOVE: FELLOWSHIP

And all the believers were together and had all things in common;

**ACTS 2:44 NASB**

Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart.

**ACTS 2:46 NASB**

No foul language should come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for needed edification, that it may impart grace to those who hear. <sup>30</sup> And do not grieve the holy Spirit of God, with which you were sealed for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup> All bitterness, fury, anger, shouting, and reviling must be removed from you, along with all malice. <sup>32</sup> [And] be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving one another as God has forgiven you in Christ.

**EPHESIANS 4:29-32 NABRE**

## A CHURCH THAT IS ALIVE:

### 4. SERVES GOD BY SERVING PEOPLE: MINISTRY

and they would sell their property and possessions and share them with all, to the extent that anyone had need.

**ACTS 2:45 NASB**

<sup>10</sup> "This is what the Lord says: 'Yet again there will be heard in this place, of which you say, "It is a waste, without man and without animal," that is, in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem that are deserted, without man and without inhabitant and without animal, <sup>11</sup> the voice of joy and the voice of gladness, the voice of the groom and the voice of the bride, the voice of those who say, "Give thanks to the Lord of armies, For the Lord is good, For His mercy is everlasting," as they bring a thanksgiving offering into the house of the Lord. For I will restore the fortunes of the land as they were at first,' says the Lord.

**JEREMIAH 33:10-11 NASB**

## A CHURCH THAT IS ALIVE:

### 5. PROCLAIMS THE GOSPEL TO OTHERS: EVANGELISM

So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.

**ACTS 2:41 NASB**

praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

**ACTS 2:47 NASB**