

Acts Biblical Reflection – Who Are We as a Missional Hub?

Acts 2:42-47, Early Church

What were the 4 characteristics of the early church?

Imagine what each characteristic would have looked like and describe.

Describe in detail how congregations in your Missional Hub are devoted to each characteristic:

- Biblical Teachings/Spiritual Growth
- Community
- Fellowship
- Prayer/Worship

What is unique about the congregations in your Missional Hub?

What does it mean to you that “all the believers were united and shared everything”? [Further described in Acts 4:32-37]

Name specific ways that congregations in your Missional Hub are united as a faith community?

Name specific ways that congregations in your Missional Hub are united to the communities surrounding your Missional Hub.

What gifts can your Missional Hub share with one another? To the community?

What was the early church’s fruitful outcome?

List specifically the fruitful outcomes that your Missional Hub expects.

Pray that God shows your Missional Hub how to live and/or put persons and situations in your path so that these outcomes become a reality. [Name each week in worship, Bible Study, and/or on a bulletin board where you see God at work in your midst.]

Acts 6:1-7

What conflict arose in the early church? Name what led to the conflict and the underlying issue.

How did the early church leaders resolve the conflict?

How do congregations in your Missional Hub recognize conflict?

How do congregations in your Missional Hub resolve conflict?

Often conflict, like the early church experienced, leads to changing old patterns of behavior that can result in growth. Name areas of dis-ease with old patterns, restlessness, and/or conflict within congregations of your Missional Hub that needs to be addressed for the congregation to grow as a faith community? To reach out to the community?

The church’s mission is to “make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world”. Review the current ministries of each congregation in your Missional Hub by completing the following chart (*add lines as needed*):

Name of Ministry	Come and See	Learn and Grow	Go and Serve/Invite

Directions: Be realistic! List each key ministry then check whether this ministry’s key function is to “come and see” – invites persons to experience the relationships of your congregation and a relationship with Jesus Christ. “Learn and grow” – leads persons to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ and others. “Go and Serve/Invite – sends persons into the community to serve and to build Christ-centered relationships with others. Caution – you might think that a ministry might offer all three but as a group choose only one function. It will be helpful to think about the main purpose of the ministry.

List the ministries that do not offer opportunities for “come and see”; “learn and grow”, “go and serve/invite”. [Note: not all ministries might be listed in the chart. Some ministries pay the bills like fundraisers, or some ministries main function is to foster fellowship within the congregation]

As you look at the chart, what do congregations in your community do extremely well? Name any ways that you need to strengthen or expand these ministries to be fruitful?

As you look at the chart, what is lacking?

Brainstorm and list other opportunities of ministry that would foster deeper relationships with God, with one another, and your neighbors.

As you look at the list of ministries not in the chart, name any ministry that Ebenezer might like to change the focus so that it could be added to the chart. [Note – not all ministries should necessarily be placed in the chart. You need ministries that pay the bills or celebrate the church family, etc...However, most of your ministries should fit in the chart.]

The early church realized that they needed new leaders. What does your Missional Hub need to grow and/or expand fruitful ministries within the congregations? In the community?

Pray for the ministries that you have identified that need to be expanded or started so that you can be vital congregations in your neighborhood.