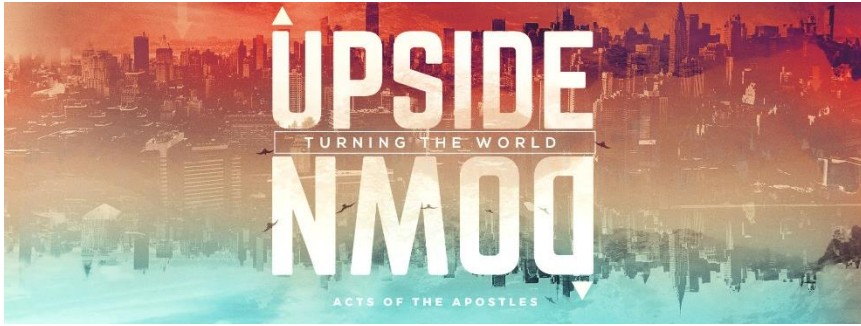




Devoted, Part 1

Life Group Study, Week of November 7, 2021

Engage.

If your group did NOT finish sharing how each group member came to personal faith in Jesus Christ, continue sharing those stories this week.

If your group DID finish sharing those stories, complete the following sentence: *"If I could be a time traveler, I would most want to visit _____ because ..."*

Look at the Book: Acts 2:42-47

If you happened to hear Pastor Jim's message on Sunday, what stood out to you, if anything? What questions do you have?

What life experiences come to mind for you when you hear the word "devoted"?

A Christian research organization found that in 2011, 43 percent of Americans said they went to church every week. By February 2020, that figure had dropped 14 percentage points to 29 percent. What are some factors that might explain such a significant change in Christians' devotion to the life of the local church?

What role does devotion to each of the four priorities listed in Acts 2:42 play in a healthy local church? In a healthy Christian life?

How did you respond/react to Jim's statement, *"These priorities define the normal Christian life and the normal church"*?

What did Luke mean by "the apostles' teaching"?

Why do you think devotion to the apostles' teaching is listed first among the four major priorities of the church?

Read Luke 8: 4-15. What did Jesus say the seed in the parable represented? What four conditions of human hearts were represented by the four soils? What outcomes resulted from the seed's contact with each kind of soil? What characterizes the response of those represented by the good soil (verse 15)? In what ways do you see "devotion" in this description?

In practical terms, what should devotion to the apostles' teaching look like for us individually today? For us as a church?

Does "devoted" describe your approach to God's word? To the life of the church? Why or why not? If not, are there any changes you are ready and/or willing to make?

What questions do you have about what we have discussed? How do you personally want to respond?

Memorize

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.
Acts 2:42