

## THE BLUEPRINT FOR THE CHURCH

Acts 2:40-47

### INTRODUCTION

A blueprint is the pattern and the standard by which a physical building is constructed. This text in Acts gives us the New Testament “pattern” for the Church.

- I. **THE EARLY CHURCH WAS A SAVED CHURCH**
  - A. THE PATTERN IS “SAVED” FIRST AND “CHURCH MEMBERSHIP” SECOND
  - B. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE “SAVED”?
- II. **THE EARLY CHURCH WAS A STEADFAST CHURCH (v 42)**
  - A. THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY
  - B. PERSEVERANCE IS IMPORTANT
- III. **ALSO, THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH WAS A STUDYING CHURCH**
  - A. THEY CONTINUED “IN THE APOSTLE’S DOCTRINE” (TEACHING)
  - B. WE MUST ALWAYS BE SEEKING THE TRUTH ABOUT JESUS
- IV. **THE EARLY CHURCH WAS A SHARING CHURCH (THEY CONTINUED IN FELLOWSHIP)**
  - A. FELLOWSHIP IS VERY IMPORTANT
  - B. CHRISTIANS SHARE A COMMON LIFE IN CHRIST
- V. **THE EARLY CHURCH WAS A SEEKING CHURCH (THEY CONTINUED IN PRAYER)**
  - A. THEY WERE SEEKING THE LORD TOGETHER
  - B. CORPORATE PRAYER IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE CHURCH
- VI. **THE EARLY CHURCH WAS A SUPERNATURAL CHURCH**
  - A. SIGNS AND WONDERS WERE BEING DONE THROUGH THE APOSTLES
  - B. TODAY’S CHURCH MUST HAVE THE SUPERNATURAL WORKING OF GOD’S HOLY SPIRIT
- VII. **THE EARLY CHURCH WAS A SACRIFICING CHURCH (THEY GAVE AND HELPED ONE ANOTHER, vv 44,45)**
  - A. MANY SOLD POSSESSIONS AND GAVE THE MONEY TO THE CHURCH
  - B. HEALTHY CHURCHES HAVE THIS SPIRIT OF SACRIFICIAL GIVING
- VIII. **THE EARLY CHURCH WAS SMILING CHURCH**
  - A. THEY MET TOGETHER WITH GLADNESS (v 46)

- B. WHEN THE CHURCH IS CONTROLLED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT THERE  
WILL BE GLADNESS AND UNITY
- IX. THE EARLY CHURCH WAS A SAVING CHURCH v 47)**
  - A. PEOPLE CONTINUE TO BE SAVED
  - B. THE LORD ADDED THOSE WHO WERE BEING SAVED TO THE CHURCH

## **CONCLUSION**

This is God's blueprint for His Church. How are we measuring up?