

## Sermon Notes – February 17, 2019

### The Power of Devotion (*Acts 2:42-47*)

Devotion: Love, loyalty or enthusiasm for a person, activity or cause.

The early church was a devoted church. They were devoted to five foundational principles:

- I. The Apostle's Teaching
  - A. The study of God's Word took precedence over the individual's experience. (*2 Timothy 2:15*)
  - B. The study of God's Word was the burning passion of the congregation. (*Acts 17:11*)
  
- II. Fellowship
  - A. Koinonia is common participation in God. (*1 John 1:3*)
    1. The vertical relationship with God.
    2. The horizontal relationship with one another.
  - B. Koinonia is common participation in generosity.
    1. Life is more than materialism. (*Luke 12:15*)
    2. Life is better as a giver, not a taker. (*Acts 20:35*)
  - C. Koinonia is the voluntary giving from a grateful heart.
    1. Not by the force of communism.
    2. Not by the unfairness of socialism.
      - a. "Whenever there is a system that taxes those who have more at a higher rate than those who have less in order that the state can take these resources and redistribute them to those who have less, that is socialism, because it is being done not willingly but by force." – James Montgomery Boice
  
- III. Worship
  - A. The corporate formal worship in the temple. (*Hebrews 10:24-25*)
  - B. The informal communion worship in the homes.
  
- IV. Prayer
  - A. The prayers of corporate worship. (*Acts 1:14*)



V. Evangelism (*Witnessing*)

A. The daily telling of the life transforming message of the gospel.

1. Jesus: the Way, the Truth and the Life. (*John 14:6*)
2. Jesus: the Resurrected One. (*I Corinthians 15*)
3. Jesus: the man who is God in flesh. (*John 1*) (*Hebrews 1*)

B. The daily partnership of the builder of the church.

1. Jesus: “I will build my church.” (*Matthew 16:18*)
2. Jesus: “You will be My witnesses.” (*Acts 1:8*)
3. Paul: “It is God who is at work in you.” (*Philippians 2:12-13*)

C. The daily goal of the Lord’s Prayer. (*John 17*)

1. The love of the disciples for one another.
2. The unity of the disciples with one another.
  - a. “Unity of the Christian community is guided by the gift of the Holy Spirit.”