

# THE BOOK OF *Acts*

|| Group Discussion Guide ||

October 1, 2023

## A PICTURE OF THE EARLY CHURCH

1

This passage is similar to Acts 2:42-47—why does Luke include these pauses in the narrative? What has changed in the church since Acts 2?

2

What does it mean to have “one heart and one soul” (v.32)? Why is this emphasis on unity important in the church?

3

To say that something that “belongs” to you is not your “own” may seem like a paradox (v. 32). Is it a paradox? Does this attitude provide a model for Christians today to follow?

4

Is this passage to be taken as a prescription for “Christian communism”? What does the Bible say about how we should consider property and community?

5

Verse 33 mentions that “great power” was given to the apostles in their testifying and “great grace” was upon everyone. What is the source and nature of this power and grace?

6

We are given a description of the general practice of the early Christians, and then the specific example of Barnabas. Why might we have been introduced to this individual in this way? Do we see the generosity of the church differently when it is personalized in a single example?

7

What is implied by the fact that the early church members laid their financial contributions at the feet of the apostles? What role are the apostles playing in the church?

8

We are given a description of the general practice of the early Christians, and then the specific example of Barnabas. Why might we have been introduced to this individual in this way? Do we see the generosity of the church differently when it is personalized in a single example?

