Acts 2:42-47 Discussion Questions

- Ben opened by asking, “How much of a thing can be changed before it stops being that thing?” What are some non-negotiable things about the church?
    - What types of nonessential things do people sometimes treat as essential in the church? Why are they not essential?
- What do the disciples devote themselves to?
    - Why is the apostles’ teaching so central?
    - Ben said, “The church doesn’t get to decide what Christianity teaches.” Why is it dangerous to devote ourselves to a certain version of Christianity just because we like it?
    - Has God’s Word ever challenged or corrected your beliefs? How so?
- What is Christian fellowship, and how is it different from friendship? How does Christ make the difference?
    - How has Christ given you the resources to overcome lesser differences with other Christians?
- Why is the breaking of bread significant as a part of their gathering?
    - How does the Lord’s Supper remind us of our union with Christ? What about our union with each other? (1 Cor. 11:29, 33)
- Why is it important to talk *to* God, not just *about* God, during our gatherings?
    - How is your faith in the power of prayer right now?

    - Why is it important to believe God really answers prayer? (see Heb. 11:6)

- Ben asked, “Is your commitment to the church a reflection of what you believe about Jesus, or a reflection of how you feel about the church?” How would you have answered this at various points in your life?
- What fruit did the church’s ordinary practices produce in the church?
    - Why is awe the natural response to God’s work in and around us?
- Are verses 44-45 a proof text for communism? If not, what are they saying?
    - How has God changed your relationship with your possessions? Your money?
    - Does God command that we tithe? (see Acts 20:35, Mal. 3:8-10)
    - What does God want from us in our giving? (see 2 Cor. 9:7)
    - What might a pattern of non-giving reveal about our hearts? (see Matt 6:21)
    - How is generosity a natural response to the gospel? (see John 13:34)
- God adds new believers to the church at Jerusalem “day by day.” How can we make sure we are welcoming new believers into our fold?