**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. May 14, 2017**

**Life In Christian Community**

ACTS 2:40-47

**Key Truth:** God not only calls you to Himself but He calls you to experience a new family.

We must shatter the unholy trinity of Me, Myself, and I.

1. Christianity by nature is a community religion.

2. Every believer is a vital part of the body of Christ.

3. The Bible knows nothing of a Christian not committed to the

 local Biblical community.

1. Healthy discipleship takes place in community.

 A. They were devoted to the Apostle’s teachings centered

 around Jesus Christ.

 B. They were devoted to one another.

 1. Fellowship is the byproduct of our devotion and

 partnership with Jesus Christ. 1 John 1:1-4

 C. They were devoted to worshipping together.

2. The results of the public demonstration of the gospel:

 A. The outside community took notice of them.

 B. Jesus Christ manifested His presence and power through

 the Apostles.

 C. They had an outpouring of sacrificial love for one another.

 1. They overflowed with generosity.

 2. Needs were met by the body of Christ.

 3. They met in each other’s home.

 D. There love for one another distinguished them as followers

 of Jesus Christ.

 E. The church continued to grow numerically.

 1. People were being drawn to the life-changing message

 and community of Jesus Christ.

**Taking it Beyond the Walls:** The Christian life was never meant to be lived alone. Get connected in biblical community.

**Connection Group Study Questions**

For the Week of May 14, 2017

Looking back at your notes from this weekend’s message, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

**Read: Hebrews 10:19-25:** Community life is not an option for a Christian, but a basic aspect of Christianity. Do you struggle with being in community with other believers? Why or Why not?

**Read Ephesians 2:11-22**: In our Western culture we put a lot of value on the individual versus on the community. How has the way we done evangelism shaped how we view our salvation?

In the Bible is Christianity viewed/expressed more as a personal faith or a communal of faith?

**Read John 13:34-35:** What did the early church do in ACTS 2:42-47, that demonstrated their love for one another? Why do you think the surrounding community was at awe of their behavior? Do you think that our communities are in awe of the church today? Why or Why not?

How has Connection Groups helped strengthen your faith?

**Reads ACTS 2:47:** Who was responsible for the overall growth of the church?