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ACTS 2:42-47

## THE FIRST CENTURY CHURCH WERE EXPERTS IN CHURCH GROWTH.

"So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls."

"But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand."

"And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved."

### DEVOTION MATTERS!

That to which you are devoted consumes your attention, your energy, your time, and even your finances.

# "THEY DEVOTED THEMSELVES TO THE APOSTLES' TEACHING"

Acts 2:42

#### Why should Christians be devoted to the Word?

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

# WE SHOULD BE DEVOTED TO THE WORD BECAUSE OF WHO AUTHORED IT!

God is the authority on life since He created it; therefore, His authorship alone is reason to be devoted to the Word.

## ARE WE TRULY DEVOTED TO THE WORD?

"lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul"

"bind them as a sign on your hand," to fix them "as frontlets between your eyes," and to "write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates"

### Devotion to the Word means that you consistently engage it.

"they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so"

## ARE WE TRULY DEVOTED TO THE WORD?