

date: 1.6.13

Walking Dusty...

teacher: Dan Crist

As Dan challenged us with the Introduction of *Radical Together*, he asked, “How can we in the church best unleash the people of God in the Spirit of God with the Word of God for the glory of God in the World?” As I thought about answers to this question, I went back and looked up the verses Dan used in his message. In Acts 2:42-47 we read: “They committed themselves to the teaching of the apostles, the life together, the common meal, and the prayers. Everyone around was in awe—all those wonders and signs done through the apostles! And all the believers lived in a wonderful harmony, holding everything in common. They sold whatever they owned and pooled their resources so that each person’s need was met. They followed a daily discipline of worship in the Temple followed by meals at home, every meal a celebration, exuberant and joyful, as they praised God. People in general liked what they saw. Every day their number grew as God added those who were saved.” (The Message)

The question above began by asking how we can best unleash the people of God, but I think these verses show that God is the One that does the unleashing. Sure, the people were committed to teaching, communion, and prayers, but God did the saving. He is the One that added to their numbers.

I think this is important for us to realize. I once had someone tell me that when a situation arises, I had to decide if it was my problem or my concern. For example, if my adult child is making poor choices, it’s not my problem, but it sure is my concern. On the contrary, if my young child is running toward the street, it’s more than my concern – it’s my problem! Well, it’s God’s problem for Him to unleash the people of God in His Spirit with His Word for His glory in His world. But because it’s my concern, I need to be obedient to my responsibilities. What are they you ask? Jesus summed it up this way: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. And love your neighbor as yourself.” (Matthew 22:37, 39) Jesus made it simple, probably because He knew we’d make it hard. Love God. Love your neighbor. God will do the rest.

Questions to Consider:

The Greatest Commandment is “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. And love your neighbor as yourself.” (Matthew 22:37, 39) How does loving God with all my heart, soul, and mind unleash God to do His work?

What does it look like to love God? Give some concrete examples.

What does it look like to love my neighbor? Give some concrete examples. Who is my neighbor? Do they feel loved?

Who are the “people of God?” What is the “Spirit of God?” What is the “Word of God?” What is the “glory of God?”

Read the verses from Acts 2 again. In what areas am I like the early church? In what areas am I lacking?

Dan spoke a lot about community. What does it look like? Do I need it? How is God the essence of community?

This month's memory verse: *"And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."*
Acts 2:47

Additional verses: *Genesis 1:26, 2:18, Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, Matthew 4:18-22, Acts 1:8, 2:42-47, Hebrews 10:24-25*

Reminders:

See website for details.... www.1mosaic.org