

Small Group Study Guide- After the Potluck 3 (Acts 4:32-37)

Opening Thought: In your own words describe what a Christian community should look like, especially within the context of how we live today. Discuss as a group!

1. Believers: oneness in Christian community. (Acts 4:32)

- Luke's writings strike a balance of community and friendship to create a Christ-centered family. Do you think of the church as being family to you? Why or why not and if yes, how so?
- Discuss being of "one heart and soul." What should this look like in the church today? Why is something that Luke explains so easily, seem so hard for us today?

2. Believers: great power and great grace. (Acts 4:33)

- When you read the words "great power" have you naturally assumed this meant miracles? How can we think of the sharing the gospel involving great power through the Holy Spirit?
- Upon comparing Acts 1:8 and 1:21-22 with 4:33 what seems to be the best understanding of *great power*? What does it mean to be a powerful witness of the resurrection? How can we be witnesses with great power?
- Luke adds that they experienced "great grace." What does this mean for us? Compare the grace of Christ (Luke 2:14 and John 1:14) with the communal grace of Acts 4:33.
- Discuss how the church was "acting" and "adding."

3. Believers: oneness in service, sacrifice and trust. (Acts 4:34-37)

- Discuss the idea that within the church "no one was with need" and how they "laid" money "at the apostle's feet."
- 3 key things we learn from the church in Acts 4:34-37 are *service*, *sacrifice* and *trust*. Discuss what each of these looks like. Why are these qualities so important? How can we make sure we understand and apply these to the church today?