



Hill Cliffe Study Guide
The First Church
#2 The Devotion of the Believers
Sunday 2 June 2024

1. What impacted you most from the Sermon on Sunday?

Please read Acts 2.42-41-47

2. As the first church became a growing Spirit-led, outward-looking community of Jesus' witnesses – how would they continue to keep 'being with Jesus' and 'becoming like Jesus'?

They devoted themselves (lovingly and loyally committed themselves) to **the Apostles Teaching**
Please read Matt 28.18-20; 2 Thess.2.15; Colossians 3.16

3. Jesus taught his disciples, then they became the teachers of the next generation of disciples. So now we have become the generation of disciples who are called to be devoted to the apostles teaching – and then to teach one another, and the next generation of disciples. How do you feel about our call to be devoted to the apostles teaching?

They devoted themselves (lovingly and loyally committed themselves) to **Fellowship**
The Greek word, Koinonia, used for 'fellowship' has 2 main meanings – both are used in Acts 2.
Firstly – Fellowship meaning partnering together as a closely bonded team.

Please read Acts 2.46; 2 Corinthians 13.11-14

4. How do we practice this kind of fellowship in our church family? And how might we do it better?

Secondly – Fellowship meaning sharing in common together.

Please read Acts 2.44-45; Acts 11.27-30

5. How do we practice this kind of fellowship in our church family? And how might we do it better?

They devoted themselves (lovingly and loyally committed themselves) to **The Breaking of Bread**
Please read 1 Corinthians 11.23-26

6. Why did the first church consider this practice to be a vital strand in the life of the church?

They devoted themselves (lovingly and loyally committed themselves) to **Prayer**

Please read Colossians 4.2; Ephesians 6.18

7. Why do you think God called Hill Cliffe to emphasize becoming more devoted to prayer in 2023-2024?
8. How have you (& we) grown in becoming more devoted to prayer over the last year?

In every generation and in every nation and denomination the churches look very different from each other – yet all churches of Jesus' disciples share this common DNA – we are all devoted to the apostles teaching, to fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer.

9. How does this make you feel about being part of a worldwide church?