Carl Thomas / General

## Acts 2:40-42 (NASB95)

40 And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation!"

41 So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.

42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

43 Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles.

They studied the apostles teaching when they were bored. They had Christian fellowship when they could fit it in. They prayed when they needed something and got lunch together every now and then. They never really saw God do anything miraculous and they were fine with that. They sometimes talked about generosity but never actually were generous. Two out of five Sundays they came to church. They didn't invite people into their homes and rarely talked about Jesus outside of church. In fact, they didn't really look different than their coworkers and every now and then, someone was randomly saved.

Faith in God looks like something.

Recapture a phrase:

I am practicing my faith

Actions that accompany and show evidence of faith.

What we say when we are demonstrating that we are not being formed to this world but undergoing counter cultural spiritual formation.

In worship, people recognize God for who He is and express their love, praise, thanksgiving, service, and living holy lives. Worship is the primary call of every person. We gather as the people of God to give praise that God is due.

Something happens in your spirit when you gather with the saints to worship.

<u>Luke 4:16–19</u> (NASB95)

**16** And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and as was His custom, He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, and stood up to read.

17 And the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. And He opened the book and found the place where it was written,

18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me,

Because He anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor.

He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives,

And recovery of sight to the blind,

To set free those who are oppressed,

19 To proclaim the favorable year of the Lord."

This shows how God moves in the disciplines of our faith.

Mark 11:17-18 (NASB95)

17 And He *began* to teach and say to them, "Is it not written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations'? But you have made it a robbers' den."

18 The chief priests and the scribes heard *this*, and *began* seeking how to destroy Him; for they were afraid of Him, for the whole crowd was astonished at His teaching.

When you pray

9 "Pray, then, in this way:

'Our Father who is in heaven,

Hallowed be Your name.

10 'Your kingdom come.

Your will be done,

On earth as it is in heaven.

- 11 'Give us this day our daily bread.
- 12 'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.
- 13 'And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from bevil. [For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.]

Acts 6:25-26

25 But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them;

26 and suddenly there came a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison house were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened.

Acts 2:43 Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles.