

# Togetherness: A must for a Strong Congregation

Acts 2:44

## Introduction:

- A. There is strength in togetherness.
  - 1. A single straw vs. a handful.
  - 2. The Lord recognized this at Babel (Gen. 11:6).
  - 3. Applies to all kinds of groups: Home, business, community, church, team sports.
  - 4. Many try to take the togetherness out of religion: Radio, TV, Drive thru.
- B. There was togetherness at Jerusalem (2:42-46).
- C. There are ways members of the church can strengthen the congregation:

## Discussion:

### I. By Assembling Together (Heb. 10:25).

- A. An opportunity to strengthen one another (Heb. 10:24-29; 1 Cor. 14:26).
- B. An opportunity to be strengthened by the Lord's special presence (Mt. 18:20).
- C. An opportunity to praise the Lord together.
  - 1. In Song (Eph. 5:19)
  - 2. In prayer.
  - 3. In communion in the Lord's Supper (cf. 1 Cor. 11; Acts 20:7).
  - 4. In giving to a common cause (1 Cor. 16:23).
- D. An opportunity that must not be taken lightly.
  - 1. What if the privilege were taken away?
  - 2. No substitute for it. (Ill. Is a phone call, note, etc. as good as being with loved one?)

### II. By Striving Together.

- A. In Prayer (Rom. 15:30)
  - 1. If one man's avails much, what about many praying (cf. Jas. 5:16-18; Ax 12:5-12).
  - 2. Reckon what would happen if all fervently prayed for the same things daily?
    - a. For the church?
    - b. For the gospel?
    - c. For the nation?
- B. For the faith (Phil. 1:27).
  - 1. *The* faith of *the* gospel — one of each (Eph. 4:5; Gal. 1:8,9)
  - 2. Produces *the* church — one church (Acts 2:47; Eph 4:4).
  - 3. Striving for gospel includes preaching it and supporting it (Phil 1:5; 4:10-17)
    - a. Can you imagine Paul having to beg them for money?
    - b. Can you imagine Philippians bickering over his support?

### III. By Being Knit Together (Col. 2:2).

- A. A love that is unselfish (1 John 3:17; 1 Cor. 13:5).
- B. A love that is kindly affectioned to one another (Rom. 12:10)
  - 1. No room for stand-offishness or coolness.
  - 2. No room for jealousy and hostility.
- C. A love account for weakness (1 Cor. 8:1, 7, 8, 13).
- D. A love that seeks obedience (1 John 5:2,3).
- E. A love that dares to discipline (Heb. 12:5-11; 2 Tim 4:1-4; 1 Cor. 5:5).

## Conclusion:

- A. Let get together in Christ (cf. Acts 2:47 NASV margin)
- B. Let us remain together in Christ.