

# DEVOTED

A NEW SERMON SERIES

## PART 1: DEVOTED TO THE APOSTLES' TEACHING

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### Sermon Notes

Text: Acts 2:42-47

#### Intro:

Sometimes church culture can cause us to lose sight of the true purpose of the church.

What you are devoted to determines your direction.

Acts 2:42-47 is "The Pentecostal Lifestyle"

"A Pentecostal is simply a Christian who believes that the book of Acts provides a model for the contemporary church." ~William Menzies

#### Today: Devoted to the Apostles Teaching

Matthew 28:19-20  
2 Timothy 2:2

Devoted = continued steadfastly, committed, sense of ongoing and continuous action.

#### 1. Devoted Corporately (v. 46)

Combination of large and small group gatherings

Hebrews 10:24-25

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#### 2. Devoted Personally

According to Lifeway Research:

- Only 44% of churchgoers report reading the Bible more than once per week.
- 18% of churchgoers report rarely or never reading the Bible
- About 60% have read the whole Bible in their lifetime.

#### 3. Devoted Obediently

Matthew 28:20 "...teaching them to *obey*..."

John 8:31  
James 1:22

Today's fruit is a result of yesterday's obedience

#### Conclusion: Having a vision for a spirit empowered life

Don't just tell people to read their Bible and obey Jesus. Give them a vision for a Spirit empowered life.

Bethel Church Penticton - Sunday September 10, 2017 - Pastor Dave Funk

## Life Group Discussion

### Warm up:

1. Are you a “church kid”? Describe your experience of growing up in church. Do you think church culture can sometimes cause us to lose sight of the true purpose of the church? How so?
2. Do you struggle with consistency in your own devotion to reading the Bible? What helps you get back into it?

### Study & Discussion:

1. Read Acts 2:1-12. This is what started the first church movement. “Pentecostals” look back on this passage as being especially important for their understand of the church. Do you consider yourself a “Pentecostal”? Why or why not?
2. Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17. What benefit is the Bible to us? How have you been personally benefitted by your own study of the Bible?
3. Read Hebrews 10:24-25. What are the benefits of studying and applying the Bible with others? What are the challenges? Do you think it’s important to regularly attend Sunday services? Why? How often is often enough?
4. What are the benefits of studying and applying the Bible alone? What are the challenges?

### Application:

1. Do you have a vision for a Spirit Empowered life? What would it look like if our church was devoted to learning and obeying teachings of the Bible? What will you do this week to increase your own devotion?

### Prayer:

1. Pray for a hunger to learn and apply the teachings of the Bible
2. Pray for our church to experience the benefits of Pentecost
3. Other Requests
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