The "New Testament Normal" Study

Daily Life in the New Testament Church

The New Testament shows us how the first followers of Jesus, filled with the Spirit, carried out His Great Commission as His people. When we look closely, we can see how the first churches spent their time and lived their lives. The Book of Acts shows us what "normal" life was like for the New Testament people of God. In this study we will look at what the book of Acts says about the normal rhythm of life for God's people.

Read through the following passages.

Acts 2:46: "day by day, attending the temple and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts."

Acts 2:47: "praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved."

Acts 5:42: "And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus."

Acts 6:1: "Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution."

Acts 16:5: "So the churches were strengthened in the faith, and they increased in numbers daily."

Acts 17:11: "...they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so."



Acts 17:17: "So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there."

Acts 19:9: "...he withdrew from them and took the disciples with him, reasoning daily in the hall of Tyrannus."

Acts 20:31: "Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears."

Questions:

- 1. What is the pattern of Christian life and recurring theme we see in these verses?
- 2. What things were happening daily?

In the New Testament church, there was:

- 1. Daily outreach (proclamation, reasoning with others)
- 2. Daily time in the Word (teaching, examining)
- 3. Daily fellowship (breaking bread in homes)
- 4. Daily ministry (distribution for the widows)
- 5. Daily increase

What does this mean for your ministry? How can Christian life be "daily" in your own ministry and in the lives of your believers and churches?

