CAPTIVATING COMMUNITY

Acts 2:42-47 · Kaká Monteiro · June 7, 2026

Word, fellowship, table and prayer: the new people Pentecost created

THE CENTRAL IDEA

"A captivating community isn't born of affinity, but of the Gospel at the center."

Clubs, tribes and teams gather people who are alike. The church in Acts gathered strangers of different languages and countries who, shortly before, didn't even know each other, and now shared the table and their possessions. Only Jesus explains that. I t isn't a show or a campaign: it is daily devotion, and the city can't look away.

THE MESSAGE IN 3 MOVEMENTS

01 The foundation: the liturgy of the ordinary.

Persevering is holy stubbornness, with no end date. Word, fellowship, table and prayer don't sound extraordinary, and that i s exactly where the Gospel comes off the page. God wants the p erseverance of Monday morning more than the fire of an event.

02 The evidence: awe and presence.

Signs confirm the Gospel; they never replace it. The greatest miracle is a heart of stone becoming a heart of flesh, a stranger becoming family. At the table, like Mephibosheth at David's table, n o one looks at our weakness.

03 The mark and the result: love you can see.

No one was forced: it was the Spirit moving hearts and wallets. Generosity keeps our things from owning us. And the growth wasn't manufactured, it was given: the church became the Gospel m ade visible.

READING THE TEXT · ACTS 2:42-47

Acts 2:42 · The foundation

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to f ellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Nothing s pectacular: the liturgy of every day.

Acts 2:43-45 · Awe and practical love

Everyone was filled with awe, and many signs were performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common; they sold property and possessions and gave to anyone who had need.

Acts 2:46-47 · Joy and growth

Every day they met in the temple courts and broke bread in their homes, with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

QUESTIONS FOR THE GROUP

To open: think of a group you are or were part of: a team, a class, a club. What held you together? What was it like for an outsider to join?

1. The greatest miracle of Pentecost was a new people, brought together without affinity. Who in our community would you never have as a friend if it weren't for Jesus? What does that say about the Gospel?
2. Word, fellowship, table and prayer: which of these four is strongest in your life today, and which is weakest? What would help you persevere in it?
3. Many people avoid having others over because their home isn't "perfect". What keeps you from opening your table? What w ould happen if you did it anyway?
4. The generosity of the church in Acts was spontaneous, moved by the Spirit. What do you have that could be God's i nstrument in someone's life this week?

KEY PASSAGES

Ezekiel 36:26, "I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh." The greatest miracle Acts 2 shows.

2 Samuel 9:7, "You will always eat at my table." David seats Mephibosheth at the king's table: a picture of the table God invites us t o, and where he invites us to welcome others.

John 13:35, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." What makes the community captivating.

TO CLOSE

A step for this week. Open your table: invite someone from church you barely know for a meal, without waiting for your home to be perfect. And ask God for eyes to see a concrete need near you.

Prayer. Thank God that the Gospel turns strangers into family. Ask for perseverance in the ordinary (Word, fellowship, table and prayer) and a generous heart, so that our community is a visible sign of the Kingdom.

Watch the message again: point your phone camera here.