

# ACTS - "To the Ends of the Earth"

## "The Life of the Early Church"

Acts 2:42-47

May 10, 2015

### A PICTURE OF A MOM MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE

*Mom, thank you...*

*For protecting, loving, and comforting; for unifying, teaching and scrubbing.*

*For beauty, patience, and resilience;*

*for lunches, Band-Aids and counseling brilliance.*

*For coloring, reading, and middle of the night feeding;*

*for music lessons, math tutoring and personal hygiene screening.*

*For hearing your name called from anywhere in the house;*

*and, when necessary, for picking through hair to find a louse.*

*For patience, smiles and tears; for dispelling a wide variety of fears.*

*For forming a home, for answering the phone, for making others feel they're not alone.*

*For washing the clothes and stocking the fridge;*

*for constantly adjusting where things go... just a smidge.*

*For fixing many a tear, for finding lost things that went somewhere, for proving that you care;*

*but most of all, thank you for showing us the God who is there.*

*Anonymous*

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## A PICTURE OF A CHURCH NEAR TO GOD

*Pentecost has happened (God himself now indwells believers, and the community of believers), the Church is launched, and now they are into daily life. What does it look like? They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together 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. Acts 2:42-47*

The Early Church was a learning Church – the devoted themselves to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ according to the Word of God.

*"People do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." Matthew 4:4*

The Early Church was a loving church – they eagerly shared their \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ resources with others in need.

*When you have finished setting aside a tenth of all your produce... you shall give it to the Levite, the foreigner, the fatherless and the widow, so that they may eat in your towns and be satisfied. Then say to the Lord your God: "... look down from heaven, your holy dwelling place, and bless your people..." Deuteronomy 26:12-15*

*This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. 1 John 3:16-18*

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