

Three marks of a healthy church

Acts 2:42-47

Slides from John Percival's sermon at the morning service
Sunday 23rd November 2025

1. The pursuit of godliness (v42)

Acts 2v42

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

1. The pursuit of godliness (v42)

- Learning

“We acknowledge our need to grow in godliness, so we are committed to learning regularly from the Word of God in community, in order that he would transform us by his Spirit.”

Eden Church Vision Statement

1. The pursuit of godliness (v42)

- Learning
- Fellowship
- Communion
- The prayers

2. The practice of community (v44-46)

Acts 2v44-46

⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶ 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,

2. The practice of community (v44-46)

- Different times





2. The practice of community (v44-46)

- Different times
- Different locations
- Different needs



Dietrich Bonhoeffer
Life Together



“Every human wish-dream that is injected into the Christian community is a hindrance to genuine community and must be banished if genuine community is to survive. He who loves his dream of a community more than the Christian community itself becomes a destroyer of the latter, even though his personal intentions may be ever so honest and earnest and sacrificial.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

“God hates visionary dreaming; it makes the dreamer proud and pretentious. The man who fashions a visionary ideal of community demands that it be realized by God, by others and by himself. He enters the community of Christians with his demands, sets up his own law, and judges the brethren and God accordingly.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

3. The presence of God (v43, 47)

Acts 2v47

the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.