

BLESS: Eat Missionally

(Acts 2:40-47)

Introduction.

Why do we constantly return to Acts 2 to examine the early church? Because we should not seek to be like the church down the road or imitate the ministry of another church, but rather become like the New Testament model of church found in Acts 2.

Contextualize this SERMON in the B.L.E.S.S. series

Contextualize Acts 2:40-47. The early church experienced explosive growth on and following the Day of Pentecost.

I. The Picture of a Healthy Church

Principle: God gives growth to healthy churches.

A) They prioritized the Word

B) They were like family

(Fellowship is a two way practice.)

C) They practiced hospitality

Two groups of people – the 120 and the 3000 that were added. God used food to bring the two together.

D) They practiced personal, spiritual disciplines

II. The Practice of Missional Eating

Principle: *Missional living is not programmed, but the result of individual efforts to influence people for Jesus.*

A) Community Involvement

B) Neighborhood Involvement. (There is something about eating a meal together.)

Connect with people.
Deeper relationships.

This was not programmed, but simply neighbors ministering to neighbors spontaneously because of a desire for them to know about their Savior.

86% of people who come into the church come in by way of a friendship.

One church in central Texas practices doing nothing alone. When couples go out to eat, they invite an unchurched neighbor or friend. When they go shopping they invite someone. When they have a BBQ, they invite others.

When you BBQ, invite the neighbors.
Invite a lost person to go to dinner with you.
Once a month have a meal with your friends AND invite that coworker, neighbor, etc.
Have a block party.

III. The Product of Missional Eating

Principle: *When you live missionally, God honors your efforts with changed lives.*

A) Favor with People

B) Additions

Conclusion