

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....” John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

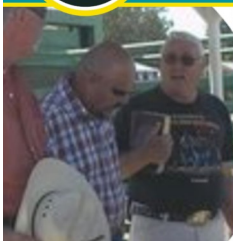
PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a



MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

Dr. Richard Morgan | N. American Baptist Missions



PRAISE

- We just wrapped up 3 weeks of tent meeting on a Navajo and Apache Reservation in New Mexico, during the meetings 8 people trusted Christ as Savior.

- The church on Wind River is seeing souls saved and baptized as new people are coming weekly

PRAY

- for all of the new believers, pray for protection as they continue to grow in Christ.

- for family camp and all of the preachers and church groups that will attend.



ignite your
purpose

Handout: 10/22/23

Study Date: 10/29/23

Building Community

Six verses have shaped my vision for community in the local church more than most. They paint a vivid picture of what marked the very first church. Acts 2:42–47 describes this community of faith for the sake of our Christian communities today.

1. Relentless Devotion, Not Casual Indifference

They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. . . . And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts. (Acts 2:42, 46)

Devoted. Perhaps it is easy for you to find churches meeting weekly or more, even within a couple miles of your home, but how many of our churches are marked by this kind of passionate devotion to God’s word and to one another? This was not just faithful attendance or reliable, spiritual routine. It was relentless joy and love — together.

What were they devoted to? To the Scriptures and to their fellowship (Acts 2:42). Not devoted like we might be devoted to a New Year’s resolution, but like we are devoted to eating food and drinking water each day. They were daily devoted to God’s word and to each other like their lives depended on it, because they did depend on it.

Is your community committed like theirs?

2. Heartfelt Affection, Not Bored Formality

What happened as they devoted themselves to the Bible and to one another? “Awe came upon every soul” (Acts 2:43). Do you think of evangelism like it’s an academic lecture or marketing pitch, trying desperately to persuade a nonbeliever to surrender and agree with us? Something different was happening in this tiny and fragile church: awe.

Awe overwhelms the mind to get to the heart. It must take the mind first. No feeling or emotion leads to real life or joy if it is not based on the truth about you and about God (Romans 10:2). Christianity, though, is not simply about getting the truth right, but about having the truth capture our hearts. If we are not fascinated with this Christ, we can hardly claim to know him.

Too many of us in too many of our churches settle for rehearsing the same truths over and over again — in singing and preaching and discussing — without expecting to be moved by God again. But awe is not only the experience of conversion, but of day-in, day-out faith in community. As we watch God move over and over — for one another and in one another — our hearts awakened in wonder again.

Is your community still moved by God?

Source: “Captured. Committed. Contagious.” by Marshall Segal

KEY VERSE

Acts 2:42 (NKJV)

And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Acts 2:40-41, 9:26; Ephesians 5:25;

Membership: Choosing to Belong

1. What is fellowship and why is it important for the believer?
2. Why is church membership important for a believer?

Tuesday: Romans 6:4; Acts 8:26-39; Matthew 3:16-17

Baptism: Choosing to Belong

3. What does today's reading teach us about baptism?
4. Why is baptism important for a believer?

Wednesday: Acts 2:42-43; Hebrews 13:16; I Timothy 6:18

Friendship: Learning to Share

5. What are some things that a Christian community should share together?
6. What do you have that you can share with other believers at Capital?

Thursday: Acts 2:44-45; Ephesians 4:16; Romans 12:5

Partnership: Doing Your Part

7. Would you say that you are a participant or a spectator in the life of the church? Why did you answer the way that you did?
8. In what ways are you participating in the life of Capital?
9. Who are some people that you partner with?

Friday: Acts 2:46-47; Proverbs 6:16, 19; Ephesians 2:19

Caring Like Family

10. In what ways is a church like a family?
11. What are some things that you can do to protect your church family?
12. What can you do this coming week to help build community at Capital?