Acts 2:42-43 (NIV) They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup> Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles.

Acts 2:44-46 (NIV) All the believers were together and had everything in common. <sup>45</sup> Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. <sup>46</sup> Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts.

## PRACTICES of the EARLY CHURCH

Acts 2:42-46

Acts 2:42 (NIV) They devoted themselves to the apostles' **TEACHING** and to the **FELLOWSHIP**, to the **BREAKING of BREAD** and to **PRAYER**.

# When we take part in the Lord's Supper

 As OFTEN as we DO this
 EVERY TIME we Eat the Bread and Drink the Cup
 PROCLAIM His Death announce for ALL the hear
 WAIT Expectantly for His Coming Matthew 28:19 (NIV) ...GO and make disciples of all nations, BAPTIZING them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...

#### **EVERYONE Who has...**

ADMITTED- they are sinners and NEED a Savior

Romans 6:23 (NIV) For the WAGES of sin is death, but the GIFT of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

#### **EVERYONE** Who has...

#### By FAITH Accepted- Jesus' offer of Forgiveness

Ephesians 2:8-9 (ESV) For **BY GRACE** you have been saved **through FAITH**. And this is **NOT** your own doing; **it is the GIFT of God**, <sup>9</sup> **NOT a result of works**, so that no one may boast.

#### **EVERYONE** Who has...

Seeking to SUBMIT to God in Daily Obedience (this is Discipleship)

Romans 6:13 (NIV) Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather **offer yourselves to God**, as those who have been **brought from death to life**; and offer the parts of your body **to Him as instruments of righteousness.**  Luke 8:1, 3 (NIV) ...Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God... <sup>3</sup>...These women were helping to SUPPORT them out of their own means. Matthew 27:55 (NIV) Many women were there, watching from a distance. They had followed Jesus from Galilee to CARE for His needs. Matthew 6:3-4 (NIV) But WHEN you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup> SO THAT your giving may be in secret...

1 Corinthians 16:1-2 (NIV) Now **about the collection** for God's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do.<sup>2</sup> On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his **income**, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.

2 Corinthians 9:7 (NIV) Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. STEWARDSHIP acknowledges that we do NOT have the CONTROL over ourselves OR our property - God has that control. It means as stewards of God we are managers of that which BELONGS to God, and we are under His authority... gotquestions.org GIVING is...
> a PRIVILEGE
> a form of WORSHIP
> an INVESTMENT

### **SUGGESTIONS FOR GIVING**... 1- Give REGULARLY 2- Decide on a **PERCENTAGE** to Give 3- As God Blesses Pray about **INCREASING** Your Giving

Only one life to offer Jesus, My Lord and King Only one tongue to praise Thee, And of Thy Mercy sing Only one heart's devotion Savior, O may it be Consecrated alone to Thy matchless glory, Yielded fully to Thee.

Only one life to offer Take it dear Lord, I pray; Nothing from Thee withholding, Thy will I now obey, Thou who has freely given Thine all in all for me, Claim this life for Thine own to be used, my Savior, Every moment for Thee.