



Message Reflections

October 6, 2019

Read Acts 2:42-47.

- What do you think it was like to attend church during this time? How would you describe it to someone?

Dr. Gilbert Bilezikian says, “Acts 2 tells us that this community of believers, this church, offered unbelievers a vision of life that was so beautiful it took their breath away. It was so bold, so creative, so dynamic that they couldn't resist it. Verse 47 tells us that *‘the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.’* “

The word *devoted* is used in verse 42 and means, “to give your constant attention.”

- What activities did the early Christians “devote themselves to” in these verses?
- Which of these activities would you like to give more devotion to?
 - Reading and studying the Bible
 - Prayer
 - Meeting with other Christians

Those who had been scattered, preached the word wherever they went. Acts 8:4

The church could not bless the world as long as it stayed together in one place. The church was much more effective scattered than gathered. By going where the people were, they reached far more people than they could have reached by staying in Jerusalem.

Local churches should exist as “missional outposts” in their neighborhoods and cities.

- What fears or struggles are keeping you from going out of here as a missionary? What would you like to do about that?
- Identify a particular person, in a situation who has real needs, that you can serve. Then go and serve that person.

Being missional means, we see the church not as a place we go only on Sunday, but as something we are throughout the week. Let us “gather” to study the Bible, pray, and fellowship together. But we must also see the church as “scattered” – each of us as missionaries sent into our neighborhoods and workplaces.

Eric