

## **The Jerusalem Church Model**

**Acts 2:40-47**

By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show what we can learn from the early church.

- Intro:
1. Sometimes today we are not satisfied with the simple things.
  2. The church in the New Testament, in Acts 2, did simple things.
  3. The simple things they did showed their devotion to God.
    - a. It showed their heart before God and men.

### **I. 4-Fold Dedication (Acts 2:42)**

#### **A. Doctrine/Teaching**

1. The teaching of Jesus is based on truth (**Jn 8:31-32**)
2. Sound doctrine provides the required sound foundation.

#### **B. Fellowship**

1. This includes joint-participation in worship and in the work of the Lord.
2. Christianity is an “we-religion” not an “I-religion” or an “you-religion”

#### **C. Breaking Bread**

1. Communion with Christ (**1 Cor 10:16**)

#### **D. Prayers**

1. Communion with God (**Acts 4:23-24**)
2. They “gathered together” to pray

#### **E. Result (Acts 2:47)**

### **II. They Responded to the Needs of Each Other (Acts 2:44-45)**

- A. They would sacrifice to provide for others (**Acts 4:32-37**)

### **III. Growing Church (Acts 5:14)**

- A. The church grew spiritually & numerically (**Acts 4:4; 6:1a**)

### **IV. Lessons for Us Today**

#### **A. The Church in the beginning**

1. The church was at its most sincere (**Acts 2:41a**)
2. The church was doing as the Lord intended (**Acts 2:42**)

#### **B. The church today can & should be the same.**

1. People today can still hear and respond in the same way (**Rom 10:17, Acts 2:41a**)
2. Christians today can still do what they did and be pleasing to God, just as they were pleasing to God (**Acts 2:46-47**)

### **Application & Conclusion:**

1. Let us strive to be like those in days of the early church, simply Christians.
2. Christians who simply were devoted to follow God.
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11-12, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent & Pray: James 5:16, 1 John 1:9