

## LESSON NOTES

February 8 & 10, 2019



### 1. Central is a happy church.

They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity.

*Acts 2:46*

"I have told you these things so that you will be filled with My joy. Yes, your joy will overflow!"

*Jesus in John 15:11*

A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit saps a person's strength.

*Proverbs 17:22*

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."

*Psalms 122:1*

The apostles left the high council rejoicing that God had counted them worthy to suffer disgrace for the name of Jesus.

*Acts 5:41*

<sup>7</sup>Many evil spirits were cast out, screaming as they left their victims. And many who had been paralyzed or lame were healed. <sup>8</sup>So there was great joy in that city.

*Acts 8:7 – 8*

When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away. The eunuch never saw him again but went on his way rejoicing.

*Acts 8:39*

When he arrived and saw this evidence of God's blessing, he was filled with joy, and he encouraged the believers to stay true to the Lord.

*Acts 11:23*

When she recognized Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed that, instead of opening the door, she ran back inside and told everyone, "Peter is standing at the door!"

*Acts 12:14*

The believers were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

*Acts 13:52*

They told them—much to everyone's joy—that the Gentiles, too, were being converted.

*Acts 15:3*

He brought them into his house and set a meal before them, and he and his entire household rejoiced because they all believed in God.

*Acts 16:34*

- **Praise is a by-product of a happy church.**

<sup>46</sup>They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity—<sup>47</sup>all the while praising God.

*Acts 2:46 – 47*

Are any of you happy? You should sing praises.

*James 5:13*

- **Popularity is a by-product of a happy church.**

All the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people.

*Acts 2:47*

We were filled with laughter, and we sang for joy. And the other nations said, "What amazing things the Lord has done for them."

*Psalm 126:2*

## **2. Central is a growing church.**

And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

*Acts 2:47*

- **God adds you to the church, you don't join it.**
- **The church was a place where people were being saved each day.**

"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through Me."

*Jesus in John 14:6*

"Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe will be condemned." *Jesus in Mark 16:16*

- **Growth in numbers was a result.**

<sup>31</sup>"The Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed planted in a field. <sup>32</sup>It is the smallest of all seeds, but it becomes the largest of garden plants; it grows into a tree, and birds come and make nests in its branches."

*Jesus in Matthew 13:31 – 32*

Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all. *Acts 2:41*

Many of the people who heard their message believed it, so the number of believers now totaled about 5,000 men, not counting women and children.

*Acts 4:4*

More and more people believed and were brought to the Lord—crowds of both men and women.

*Acts 5:14*

As the believers rapidly multiplied.

*Acts 6:1*

God's message continued to spread. The number of believers greatly increased in Jerusalem, and many of the Jewish priests were converted, too.

*Acts 6:7*

The power of the Lord was with them, and a large number of these Gentiles believed and turned to the Lord.

*Acts 11:21*

<sup>9</sup>I saw a vast crowd, too great to count, from every nation and tribe and people and language, standing in front of the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes and held palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>And they were shouting with a mighty shout, "Salvation comes from our God who sits on the throne and from the Lamb!"

*Revelation 7:9 – 10*

<sup>3</sup>We have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation, <sup>4</sup>and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in Heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay.

*1 Peter 1:3 – 4*

Never be ashamed to tell others about our Lord.

*2 Timothy 1:8*