

MARINERS CHURCH



Four Ways to Become Better Together

2.27.22

"Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples." -Jesus, John 13:35 (NLT)

All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals and to prayer. All the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. 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— All the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved. Acts 2:42-47 (NLT)

We are better together when...

...I am devoted to growth.

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Acts 2:42 (NIV)

...I am devoted to unity.

Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. Acts 2:41 (NIV)

The very fact that you have lawsuits among you means you have been completely defeated already. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be cheated? 1 Corinthians 6:7

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Galatians 5:22-23



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...I am devoted to meeting your needs.

All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Acts 2:44-45 (NIV)

There were no needy people among them because those who owned land or houses would sell them and bring the money to the apostles to give to those in need. Acts 4:34-35 (NLT)

...I am devoted to authenticity.

Acts 5:1-5

They were enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. Acts 2:46-47 (NIV)

Talk it Over! For my thoughts and LifeGroup*

If unity is so important in Jesus' church, why is it so hard to come by? Do you think the differences in denominations of Christian Churches is good or bad? How can God use the for good?

Read Acts 2:42-47 and talk about the characteristics of this church. Would you feel comfortable at a place like this? How is that church different from Mariners?

Read 1 Corinthians 6:1-11. What is going on here? How would you feel and what would you do if you were the one in the lawsuit?

Have you ever been bothered by someone at Mariners? How did you work through it?

Although the "perfect" church does not exist (as long as PEOPLE are part of it!), describe what the atmosphere and actions of a healthy, functioning church of Jesus.

Pray for each other and for God to do a great work at Mariners.

*A LifeGroup is a group of people who are committed to loving each other and growing through times like these. For more information, connect with Pastor Len at len@marinerscc.org