Reading Ahead of October 25 Service

Series Vision:

There is so much chaos and calamity happening in the world around us: The pandemic and the isolation that social distancing has caused in our lives, the fires in our backyard, the yelling going on amidst the media and political climate, and so much more. In a season like this, it's important for us to acknowledge some of the challenges we have in our souls. It is also important for us to understand and believe that God knows what time it is, and He has made us for this time. Those that followed Jesus likewise found themselves in chaotic times, beginning with Jesus' death and resurrection. In the book of Acts, we'll see how God used that chaos to mold the apostles into the world changers they were always meant to be. God wants to do the same with us today.

This Week:

The word "inpact" is not a typo. It's a word Pastor John made up. The point here is that God has to inpact us from the inside out and when we allow Him to do this, then we end up inpacting others, from the inside out.

We want to encourage everyone to invite Holy Spirit's presence to meet you right where you are as you sit in this week's passage before Pastor John shares what he feels is God's heart for our church family this Sunday. As you engage with Holy Spirit in this passage, be asking this question - "Holy Spirit, what is one word or phrase from this passage that you want to impress on my heart for this week? Then, when you're ready, jump into the passage here below...

Acts 2:42-47

42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Other Questions to Consider after Reading

- In bold and underlined are the key things the church leaned into in their crooked generation as the first century church. Why do you think these practices were important?
- How did they help the people of the church get uncrooked themselves?

Engaging God's Heart

- Reflect in this season on what you really long for. Spend some time praying about that (5 minutes or so).
- Ask the Lord - "God, if this is what the first century needed to straighten themselves out, what do I need? How do I apply this in my life?"

May the Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace!