



## DEVOTED TO THE WORD • ACTS 2:42-47

The opening eight words of Acts 2:42-47 highlight the primary characteristic of the first church in the New Testament. Every other detail about their life together followed from their devotion to the apostles' teaching. From this starting point we will seek to understand what it means for us to be a church "Devoted to the Word." We see that this early church – and by extension every healthy, biblical, church must be devoted to: *Knowing the Word of God*, *Loving the Word of God*, and *Living the Word of God*.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Are you devoted to growing in the word of God? Use this time as a group to discuss your individual Bible reading habits.
2. In order to know the word of God, we must be committed to reading it and studying it. How does our church's practice of expositional preaching contribute to your knowledge of scripture? What are some other Bible study methods that have helped you learn God's word better?
3. Matt gave a number of helpful questions in his sermon to consider whether or not we love the word of God. Have you eaten into the soul of the Bible? Has Scripture done a work in your heart so that you don't even talk the same anymore? Is your very life flavored with the truth of the gospel? Ask some of these questions as a group and consider how your life illustrates love for the Bible.
4. As a group, read aloud Acts 2:42-47. List as many characteristics of the early church as you see in the text. Which of these marks of the early church do you see clearly reflected at The Trails? In which of these areas do you hope most to grow in personally?
5. Matt noted that there will be tests and temptations as we seek to grow in our devotion to the Bible. What are ways you can fight against the sin of apathy, distrust, or neglect of the word of God?

PRAY: Divine instructor, gracious Lord, Be Thou forever near; Teach me to love Thy sacred Word, And view my Saviour there.