



SOLID GROUND

Part Two

Acts 2:42-47

SERIES BIG IDEA:

Jesus' life, death, and resurrection is the solid ground of our faith.

They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching, and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Acts 2:42

Four pillars of Biblical Community: Bible Reading, Gathering, Connection, and Prayer

TEACHING BIG IDEA:

I build my faith in biblical community through shared experiences and prayer.

When built upon the solid ground of Jesus, communion with others deepens our bond with Jesus and each other.

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what appeared to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Now there were standing in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language.

Acts 2:1-6

The communion built in mutual experiences allows us to learn from one another, build one another up, and acknowledge our weakness and needs.

All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to everyone as he had need.

Acts 2:44-45

Praying for each other causes us to deepen our trust in Jesus.

Prayer is not asking. Prayer is putting oneself in the hands of God, at His disposition, and listening to His voice in the depth of our hearts.

Mother Teresa

Praying for each other causes us to extend a bridge of trust to each other.

Christian fellowship lives and exists by the intercession of its members for one another, or it collapses. I can no longer condemn or hate a brother for whom I pray, no matter how much trouble he causes me. His face, that may have been strange and intolerable to me, is transformed in intercession into the countenance of a brother for whom Christ died, the face of a forgiven sinner.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Praying for each other causes us to act out our faith in Jesus.

What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such a faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way faith by itself, if not accompanied by action, is dead. But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds and I will show you my faith by what I do.

James 2:14-18



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Building our faith with Scripture, Community, Connection, and Prayer reminds of us our solid ground, His sacrifice, and leads us to action.

We act out our faith because of our solid ground, the resurrected Jesus.

MY NOTES



One of the most incredible man-made wonders in all of the United States is the Bishop Castle in Colorado. Jim Bishop has built his castle over the course of the past 50 years. One of the most amazing things about the Bishop Castle is that for all the building, you can still go in and see the original 4 stone pillars that Jim Bishop crafted to begin building his castle.

They still do their job and it is evident for anyone who stops to look how important they are.

Just like Bishop Castle the 4 key pillars of our faith and biblical community never change and only increase in importance as we grow.

As you reflect on your faith walk, do you see evidence of the pillars? If so, what have they meant to you? Is it obvious to all who see your walk with Jesus? Maybe it is time to stop, examine your faith walk, and see what next step you need to take in order to see your faith grow to brand new heights.

TALK IT OVER:

Which of the 4 pillars of biblical community stood out to you? Why?

Who are the people that you regularly get to have communion with and how have they helped you grow in your faith?

Does prayer play an important role in your daily life? Explain what that looks like or what you wish it would look like.

What is one next step you can take today?

FURTHER READING:

Day 1) 1 Corinthians 10:14-17

Day 2) Matthew 26:26-32

Day 3) Romans 12:4-13

Day 4) 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

Day 5) James 5:13-18

Day 6) Luke 11:1-13