

Awesome Authentic Family - Week 2

Oneness can be so awesome! It can produce a sense of awe and yield amazing results. That's why Jesus prayed so fervently for our oneness. *John 17:20-23*

Jesus still wants to reveal His awesomeness through our oneness! He will work with us, like He did the first church, to transform us into an awesome, authentic family. *Acts 1:3,8,14-15; Acts 2:1-8,36-38; Acts 2:41-47*

We can grow as an awesome, authentic family filled with God's presence and power, if we follow the same pattern with the same passion the first church did. They devoted themselves to Christ's "CrossFit" plan. (Constantly varied, high-intensity, functional movement)

a) Word of God- Knowing who we believe in and developing an ever deepening friendship with Him. *John 17:3*

b) Fellowship- Honest sharing, practical serving, sacrificial giving, sympathetic comforting and unselfish loving.

c) Sharing daily life- (meals and communion) Taking time to do life together and making the building up of God's family the highest priority of our life.

d) Worship and Prayer- Soaking in God's presence together then pouring out our hearts expecting Him to answer.

They did life together because they wanted to and as a result God did life with them in a powerful way. He blessed their oneness in 5 awesome ways.

1) His awesome presence- *a deep sense of awe came over them all*

2) His awesome power- *apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders*

3) His awesome love- *shared everything they had, sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need*

4) His awesome joy and favor- *great joy and generosity and enjoying the goodwill of all the people*

5) His awesome salvation- *and each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved*

His church family works for everyone when we devote ourselves to how Jesus designed it to be done. Going all in is how we get all Jesus has for us and others.

1. We get and give true friendship- *Romans 12:9a; Proverbs 17:17*

2. We get and give true forgiveness- *James 5:16a*

3. We get and give true comfort- *2 Corinthians 1:4*

4. We get and give true celebration- *Romans 12:15a*

5. We get and give true encouragement- *Galatians 6:2*

6. We get and give true protection- *Galatians 6:1*

7. We get and give true purpose clarification- *Romans 12:5*

We can choose how awesome our church family becomes by committing today to the four core passions practiced by the first church.

1) Word of God

2) Fellowship

3) Sharing Daily Life

4) Worship and Prayer

Let's be an answer to Jesus prayer! *John 17:23*

Life Application Questions

1. What comes to your mind when you think of awesome oneness? How have you experienced the benefits of unity?

2. Study the first church family in Acts 2. How did they live out their oneness? What were their priorities? What did they experience together? Do you want that?

3. Review the 7 things we get and give in our family relationships in the body of Christ. Which ones do you love to give? Which ones do you need to get right now? How could you help develop and protect our family unity?