

Transformed ... by CONNECTIONS!
May 17, 2009

John 13:34-35 (NIV) 34 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Acts 2:42-46 (The Message)

41-42 That day about three thousand took him at his word, were baptized and were signed up. They committed themselves to the teaching of the apostles, the life together, the common meal, and the prayers.

43-45 Everyone around was in awe—all those wonders and signs done through the apostles! And all the believers lived in a wonderful harmony, holding everything in common. They sold whatever they owned and pooled their resources so that each person's need was met.

46-47 They followed a daily discipline of worship in the Temple followed by meals at home, every meal a celebration, exuberant and joyful, as they praised God. People in general liked what they saw. Every day their number grew as God added those who were saved.

"God does not want obedience as the fruit of our willful determination. God wants surrender as the choice of the heart. For what we long for in our heart we will pursue with the totality of our being - not simply with the resolve of our will."

Philippians 2:13 (NIV) "...for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose."

There is nothing like the local church when it is working right, its beauty is indescribable, its power is breathtaking, its potential is unlimited. It comforts the grieving, it heals the broken in the context of community, it builds bridges to seekers and offers truth to the confused. It provides resources for those in need and opens its arms to the forgotten, the down-trodden and the disillusioned. It breaks the chains of addictions; it frees the oppressed and offers belonging to the marginalized of this world. Whatever the capacity for human suffering the church has a greater capacity for healing and wholeness.

~ Bill Hybels

1. **Always be expecting looking for Curious about ...WHO God is going to put in your path to LOVE !**

2. **Talk TO people and not about people!**