

Do you, like me, read this scripture and just breathe a long sigh of contentment and peace when imagining this life the early church lived? Maybe a little envy?

Sometimes we read the news, and look at the busy world around us, and think, "Wouldn't it be nice to buy land with our friends and all live together apart from the rest of the world?"

This passage in Acts looks a little bit like that. At Pentecost, 3,000 people were baptized, many from out of town, and the local believers were incredibly generous. How cool to have been there during this time; putting the daily grind of life on hold and experiencing a devotion to teaching, fellowship, breaking bread, prayer, hospitality, praising God, sharing the Gospel, witnessing signs and wonders, God adding to their number daily, being together and having everything in common. If I was there, I would not have wanted to leave!

This communal structure in Acts couldn't last forever, and due to many variables, the early believers were scattered throughout the land. Thank God that they didn't stay in Jerusalem, or else we Gentiles would not have the opportunity to hear the Gospel! They poured into and discipled each other, and then they WENT OUT to the ends of the earth! (Acts 1:8)

Just like the early church, we at FWC, and all believers in 2026, are called to pour into other believers and then GO OUT. We are blessed to be a blessing.

*Lord Jesus, thank you for your Church. Thank you for blessing us with your Good News. Thank you for the teaching, fellowship, and hospitality we experience as we meet together, pray together, and break bread together as a local church. Help us to pour into each other **for the purpose of** pouring into the world that so desperately needs your hope and your light. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

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