



Getting Ready to Grow

(Acts 2:41-47)

Introduction:

1. Grow, grow, grow!
2. So many lessons have been presented on church growth that the idea of getting ready to grow has completely been left out.

I. What Must This Congregation Do To Prepare?

- A. This congregation must pray!
 1. The early church prayed (Acts 2:42; 4:31)
- B. This congregation must provide edification (Hebrews 3:13).
 1. Edification is building up.
 2. (1 Thessalonians 5:11)
 3. Love must be shown (John 13:34-35).
 - a. (1 John 3:11, 23; 4:7, 11, 12)
 4. (1 Peter 4:8-10)
- C. This congregation must provide opportunities (Acts 6:1-7)
 1. Men were chosen to fill an opportunity that arose.
 2. Other opportunities were abounding:
 - a. (Acts 2:44-45, 4:32-35)
- D. This congregation must nurture members
 1. Restoration of members:
 - a. (Romans 15:1,2)
 - b. (Galatians 6:1-2)
 2. (1 Peter 2:1-2)

II. What Must You Do to Prepare?

- A. You must pray! (1 Thessalonians 5:17)
 1. "Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." (Matthew 9:38)
- B. You must be willing to search (Acts 17:11).
 1. (2 Peter 3:18)
- C. You must be willing to fellowship (Acts 2:42-47)
 1. The early Christians were together daily (Acts 2:42-47)
- D. You must be willing to serve (Philippians 2:3-4)
 1. (Acts 4:32-35)
 2. (Romans 15:1-2)
- E. You must be willing to accept your responsibility to the lost (Luke 19:10)
 1. Jesus left the gospel in our hands (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16)
 2. (Romans 1:16)

Conclusion:

1. Growth in our congregations will happen, if the Lord wills.
2. (1 Corinthians 3:6-7)
3. Stand firm, teach truth, live godliness, follow God and you will grow.