Lesson Six: Community

Fellowship (read verses 2:42-47)

- 1) How can we devote ourselves to "the apostles teaching" today?
- 2) Why is it important to do this together? (see Romans 12:3-8; Ephesians 4:1-16; 2 Timothy 3:16-17.)
- 3) Why is the Lord's Supper important (see Luke 22:14-23; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17; 11:23-26)?
- 4) What other significant details of the early life of the church do you observe in 2:42-47?

True Sharing (read verses 4:32-37)

- 5) Why did the believers sell their goods to support others who were in want (4:32)? How was this generosity related to 4:33?
- 6) These early believers expressed their oneness by taking responsibility for each other's needs. To what extent do you believe this is a model we should follow? (see Thessalonians 3:6-15; 1 Timothy 5:3-16; and 1 John 3:16-18.)

False Sharing (read verses 5:1-11)

- 7) Exactly what was Ananias's sin? What do you think might have motivated him to do this?
- 8) What did God teach the early believers by striking Ananias and Sapphira dead? Is there a lesson for us?

The seven Hellenists (read verses 6:1-7)

- 9) It's risky to decide that because something is done in Acts, we should do it today. However, does 6:1-7 have any lessons relevant to us today?
- 10) In what ways are the problem and its solution in 6:1-7 unique, and in what ways are they a model for us?

Your Response: (consider doing one or more of these activities this week)

✓ How important to you are the apostles' teaching, fellowship, the breaking of the bread, and prayer? Is any one of these less important to you than the others? If so, why? Talk with God about this.

✓ How can you put into practice the principles you state in question 6? How are you encouraged by our church to do so?

✓ What one example insight from today's readings would you like to apply to your life this week? What specific action can you take toward applying this insight?