

"Our Kingdom Life" - Above the Surface

13th July, 2014

Read Acts Chapter 4 starting at verse 32. This passage describes "Kingdom Life" in the early church.

As you read these verses notice how God's favour and blessing rested on the early church. In their DNA, right from the beginning, was social concern (a commitment to each other) and the ministry or proclamation of God's Word.

Acts 4:32 All the believers were one in heart and mind.

V32b, No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had.

V33 With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all.

V34 that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales V35 and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

V36 Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement"), V37 sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.

Acts 5:12 The apostles performed many signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers used to meet together in Solomon's Colonnade. 13 No one else dared join them, even though they were highly regarded by the people. 14 Nevertheless, more and more men and women believed in the Lord and were added to their number. 15 As a result, people brought the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and mats so that at least Peter's shadow might fall on some of them as he passed by. 16 Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those tormented by impure spirits, and all of them were healed.

Questions

1. Are you convinced that what you have is God's and he has allowed you to steward it for His sake and for the building of His Kingdom and not your own?
2. Where are you currently serving the church and the community? If not, why not?
3. Who are you sowing into? Are you praying for the people in your world who are aren't following Jesus yet?
4. Can you identify the Fruit of the Spirit in your life? Love, joy, peace, etc. Share your experience of this.