

The Heart Series....

- A new heart (Barney)
- Living from your heart (Murray)
- The battle for your heart (James)
- Healing broken hearts (Karen)
- Break my heart for the things that break yours (Cally)

Today: **A community of the heart**



We love because he first loved us. Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. And he has given us this command: anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister. 1 John 4:19-21

“Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another” John 13:34-35



The Fellowship of the Believers

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. Acts 2:42-47



Characteristics of the Early Church.....

- A learning community
- Committed to fellowship
- Breaking of bread
- Prayer
- Signs and wonders
- Generosity
- Met daily in the temple courts and in homes
- Both joyful and sincere!
- Had the favour of the people
- A growing community



Diversity and Unity.....not mutually exclusive!

**We are called to embrace and celebrate diversity
while pursuing unity**

**Paul said: *Make every effort to keep the unity of
the Spirit through the bond of peace* Eph 4:3**



Rubbing up against the grit!

Do you back out, withdraw, opt out...
or do you hang in there, and let the grit
form a bit more of the pearl?



A Fellowship of the Heart

Called primarily to three things....

1. To love and serve God
2. To love and serve each other
3. To love and serve our community and share the good news of Jesus and the Kingdom of God

All three are completely interconnected



A Fellowship of the Heart

- A worshiping & praying community
- A culture of honour
- Get connected
- Be real
- Forgive, forgive, forgive...
- Generosity
- Outward looking, loving and serving our wider community



*You can have it all, Lord
Every part of my world
Take this life and breathe on
This heart that is now Yours*

