

The Growth Of The Church In The First Century

Acts 5:33-42

The Growth Of The Church

Acts 2:41 Three thousand

Acts 4:4 Five thousand

Acts 6:7 “Number of disciples multiplied.”

Acts 9:31 “So the church throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria had peace, being edified; and, walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, was multiplied.”

Acts 11:24 “...and much people was added unto the Lord.”

The Growth Of The Church

- The word of God was **TAUGHT**
 - Acts 2:14-41; 5:42; 4:4; 5:14; 8:12; 6:1,7; 11:20-21; Rom. 1:16-17
 - Believers are made through preaching the word. John 6:44-45; Rom. 10:17

The Growth Of The Church

- The word of God was taught **DAILY**
 - Acts 2:47; 5:42; 20:31
 - Success in evangelism only to the extent we evangelize.

The Growth Of The Church

- The word of God was taught **EVERYWHERE**
 - Acts 5:42; 20:20; 8:4
 - Everyone viewed as a prospect.

> The “unlikely” just may listen & obey

- *Religious/Gentile* – Cornelius (Acts 10)
- *Non-Religious* – Simon (Acts 8:9-13)
- *Worldly* – Corinthians (Acts 18:8; 1 Cor. 6:9-11)
- *Ignorant* – Jews (Acts 2:23; 3:17)
- *Persecutor* – Saul (Acts 8:3; 9:1-2; 1 Tim. 1:15)
- *Politician* – Jailor (Acts 16:31-33)

The Growth Of The Church

- The word of God was taught with **ENTHUSIASM**
 - Titus 2:14; Acts 17:6; 4:13,20
 - Disciples convinced, Jesus had risen from the dead. 1 Cor. 15:12ff

The Growth Of The Church

- The word of God was taught **PERSISTENTLY**
 - Acts 5: 38-39; 5.41-42; 8:4; cf. Phil. 1:12-17
 - Never stopped telling the story of Jesus, no matter what the cost. 2 Cor. 4:16ff; 11:23

The Growth Of The Church

- The word of God was taught **BY EVERY CHRISTIAN**
 - Acts 8:4; cf. Mt. 28:18-19; 2 Tim. 2:2
 - No special class has the exclusive responsibility to teach the word of God.

Why Did The Early Church Grow?

The word of God was TAUGHT

The word of God was taught DAILY

The word of God was taught EVERYWHERE

The word of God was taught with ENTHUSIASM

The word of God was taught PERSISTENTLY

The word of God was taught BY EVERY CHRISTIAN