

## The Church: A Faithful Gospel Witness (part 2)

### Devoted to Truth

Rob Mastry — September 6, 2020

Text: Acts 2:42

#### Introduction

"[John] Frame astutely observes that when we ask for the meaning of a text, we are actually already asking for an application. It is a false distinction to speak of the meaning of a text being different from its application; in fact, every meaning is an application, and every application is a meaning." (Pennington, Reading the Gospels Wisely)

#### LIVE THE STORY

*The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.*

- How do we think about devotion; to what do we believe that we are devoted?
- Does our devotion compare to examples of a devoted life found in the Bible?
- How to we approach theology and biblical doctrine in our own lives?
- What significance does doctrine hold in the teaching of the Apostles'?
- Do you believe that what you think about doctrine has any impact on your relationship with Christ?
- Are there any things that we can do to encourage and enable or brothers and sisters to love the lord with our mind?

#### I. Preaching God's Word

- A. Fidelity to preaching
  - 1. What did Jesus think about preaching?
    - a) Luke 2: 41-52
    - b) He preached sermon after sermon...
  - 2. What about the apostles?
    - a) They did some preaching too.
    - b) Romans 10 :14

Justin Martyr: "And on the day called Sunday, all who live in cities or in the country gather together to one place, and the memoirs of the apostles or the writings of the prophets are read, as long as time permits; then, when the reader has ceased, the overseer verbally instructs, and exhorts to the imitation of these good things."

- B. Fidelity in preaching
  - 1. Danger: False teaching!
  
- C. We are all preachers.

## II. Learning God's Word

- A. Listening with an open Bible... Acts 17: 10-11
  - 1. The temptation of Christ.
  
- B. Hebrews 4:12
  - 1. Some of us prefer to go unarmed
  
- C. Devoted to devotionals

## III. Living God's Word

- A. John 8: 31-38
  - 1. I don't believe this... I don't hold to that...
  
  - 2. Luther
  
- B. A life defiant is not devoted
  - 1. Life like Christ
  
  - 2. Galatians 6:17