



Unit 9, Lesson 35

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY: THE EARLY CHURCH

ACTS 2:42-47;
4:32-37

THE STORY HOME

This Bible story tells about the first early church of Jesus' followers. The first believers kept close to holy rules and in devotion and fellowship with each other. They depended on each other for friendship and support. They were full of love and goodwill. They gave food to each other and ate together. The Holy Spirit gave them the love and power needed to grow in faith and numbers, and to help others, showing God's love by their words and actions. They set the example for the Church today. What do we learn from the Early Church?

PARENTS & KIDS QUESTIONS:

- Wow, what do you think the Early Church looked like? Was it a building or a group of people meeting in a home or under a tree?
- How do the people in your church spend time together? Dinners? Parties? Prayer meetings?
- Do you have "adopted" parents or grandparents in your church? Tell who they are and what they're like.

TOGETHER HOME

Fun with finger play. There are many poems and songs that have accompanying finger motions. Do with your family, "Here's the church and here's the steeple. Open the door and see all the people." Clasp your hands together with the fingers folded inward and the two index fingers touching to form a "steeple." Bring your thumbs together to make a door and open to reveal your fingers inside. Sing together songs like "Deep and Wide" using arm movements.

BIBLE MEMORY HOME

"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:35) Draw a large heart and encourage your children to color it. Then with black ink or crayon print the memory verse across the heart. Tape the heart verse on a door or the refrigerator so everyone sees it every time they leave the house or get a snack.