

Devoted to the Apostles' Teaching

What was the Apostles' Teaching? There was no New Testament at the time!

Act 2:42 ESV And they devoted themselves to the **apostles' teaching** and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

How Jesus breathed life into a disillusioned group of disciples

Luke 24:15-21

.....20 and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and **crucified him**.
21 But **we had hoped** that he was the one to redeem Israel.

24 ESV Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, 23 and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that **they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive**. 24 Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see."

**The very thing that discouraged them was in fact
the eternal purpose of God
revealed throughout Scripture**

Luk 24:25-27 ESV And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! 26 **Was it not necessary** that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" 27 And **beginning with Moses and all the Prophets**, he interpreted to them in **all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.**

Their hearts burned when Jesus opened the Scriptures

Luk 24:32 ESV They said to each other, "Did not **our hearts burn within us** while he talked to us on the road, **while he opened to us the Scriptures?**"

Jesus opened their minds to understand the Scriptures

Luk 24:44-49 ESV Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that **everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.**" 45 Then he **opened their minds to understand** the Scriptures, 46 and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead,

**He gave them a mission...they must proclaim it
(for repentance and forgiveness)**

47 and that **repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed** in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things.

He gave them the Holy Spirit

49 And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But **stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.**"

See also Acts 1:8

What is the Apostles' Teaching? - Initially it was

1. Old Testament scripture (Moses, Prophets, Psalms)
2. A focus on “things concerning himself”- His suffering, death, and resurrection,
3. The words/teachings of Jesus - that the Holy Spirit would remind them of
4. Jesus spent 40 days with them - Commands given by the Holy Spirit & spoke of the Kingdom of God

Look at Peter's First Sermon

1. (Acts 2) Peter preached from (Psalm 16, 69, 109, 110, 132 and Joel 2)
2. This drawing form OT was common (Stephen, Peter, Paul)
3. Peter spoke of death, burial, resurrection, repentance, forgiveness of sins and the kingdom of God

How is the church devoted to the apostles teaching?

1. The truth of the scripture burned in their hearts
2. They proclaimed the death burial and resurrection of Jesus and repentance and forgiveness of sin even in the face of persecution

Act 4:29 ESV And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to **speak your word with all boldness**,

Act 5:19-20 ESV But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, 20 "**Go and stand in the temple and speak** to the people all the words of this Life."

Act 6:2 ESV And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should **give up preaching the word of God** to serve tables.....Act 6:4 ESV But we will **devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.**".....Act 6:7 ESV And the **word of God continued to increase**, and the **number of the disciples multiplied** greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the **priests became obedient to the faith.**

Act 8:3-4 ESV But Saul was ravaging the church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and committed them to prison. 4 Now those who were scattered **went about preaching the word.**

Act 11:1 ESV Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had **received the word of God.**

Act 12:24 ESV But the **word of God increased** and multiplied.

Act 19:20 ESV So the **word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail** mightily.

Proclamation → Teaching → Proclamation

Act 11:19-26 ESV Now those who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, [PROCLAMATION] **speaking the word** to no one except Jews. 20 But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Hellenists also, [PROCLAMATION] **preaching the Lord Jesus**. 21 And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a **great number who believed** turned to the Lord.

22 The report of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. 23

When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad, and [TEACHING] **he exhorted them all to remain faithful** to the Lord with steadfast purpose, 24 for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a [PROCLAMATION] **great many people were added to the Lord.**

25 So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, 26 and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch.

[TEACHING] For a whole year they met with the church and **taught a great many people**. And in Antioch the disciples were first called Christians

[PROCLAMATION] Acts 13:1-3 - Certain Teachers → **Separate Barnabas and Paul** → proclamation

Act 19:8-10 ESV [PROCLAMATION] And he entered the synagogue and for three months spoke boldly, **reasoning and persuading them** about the kingdom of God. 9 But when some became stubborn and continued in unbelief, speaking evil of the Way before the congregation, he withdrew from them and took the disciples with him, [TEACHING] **reasoning daily** in the hall of Tyrannus. 10 This continued for two years, [PROCLAMATION] so that **all the residents of Asia heard the word of the Lord**, both Jews and Greeks.