

## **From Religious Consumer to Kingdom Producer**

We are beginning a new series today called **ROOTED**. We are answering the question, “What would my faith look like if the church buildings were shut down permanently?” We may think it far-fetched for churches in America to be closed, but we just experienced a two-month trial where our doors were shut. Our desire is to take you from being complacent about your faith in Christ, or from being only a consumer of church activities, and show you how to become a Kingdom producer. We want to help you take *personal responsibility* for your spiritual growth and have an interest in the spiritual condition of those around you.

### **From complacent to consumer.**

Jesus takes me from being uninterested in the things of God to a person who buys in to spiritual things.

### **From consumer to connected.**

To only be a consumer is impossible when stores are closed; you must know some producers.

### **From connected to committed.**

I discover that I have gifts and a responsibility to help others think about their relationship with God.

### **From committed to compelled.**

I hear my Master say, “Go and make disciples of Me in all nations” (Matt. 28:18), and I do as He says.

## **How does it look for followers of Jesus Christ to be ROOTED in Him and serving as Kingdom producers?**

*“<sup>42</sup> They continually devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup> Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup> and they began selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. <sup>46</sup> Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they*

*took their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those being saved” (Acts 2:42-47).*

**There were regular corporate gatherings in the public square:**

This would be like our church services today. They are needed because we can do more together than any can separately. “They had all things in common... and shared with all as needed” (v. 44). They were constantly identified as fellow believers, and they went out of their way to help one another. Those early followers of Jesus Christ stayed in regular contact with God’s people.

**There were regular private gatherings in homes of believers:**

“Day by day...breaking bread from house to house...they ate with gladness and sincerity” (v. 46). There were no agendas. There was simply a feeling of gratitude toward God (“praising God”) and a desire to be there for other people. The word that most characterized this church – selfless. They made it a practice to gather together for no other reason but to encourage one another in Christ.

**There were regular additions to the church by God’s power:**

“And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved” (v. 47). The way people enter the Kingdom is to be in relationship with people who care about one another. It’s the phone call in a time of need; a card of encouragement during a day of sorrow; it’s the ability to realize that God has called you out of the world, connected you with people that you will spend eternity with in another world, and sent you into this world to be a Kingdom producer.