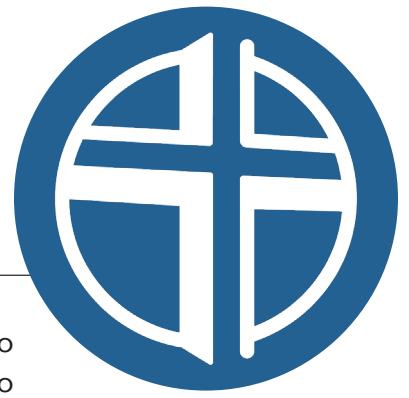


# MESSAGE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**JANUARY 2, 2022**

Marty Grubbs, Senior Pastor



Senior Pastor Marty Grubbs encouraged us to use the beginning of a new year to take stock of where we are in our Christian journey. The New Year is a natural time to look back and consider our choices and circumstances and evaluate what we need to change to move forward in a better, healthier direction. Many people resolve to make necessary changes to their physical and mental well-being, but this is also a perfect time to reflect on our spiritual health and make changes where they might be necessary to re-center on Jess.

## SCRIPTURE

### ACTS 2:42-47

<sup>42</sup> All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer.

<sup>43</sup> A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders.

<sup>44</sup> And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. <sup>45</sup> They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. <sup>46</sup> They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity <sup>47</sup> all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

### MATTHEW 22:36-40

<sup>36</sup> "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

<sup>37</sup> Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' <sup>38</sup> This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup> And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' <sup>40</sup> All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you make New Year's Resolutions or set goals at the beginning of each New Year? What kind of resolutions do you make? (Examples or specifically for this year)
2. What stood out from Marty's message?
3. Read Acts 2:42-47. What do you learn about the early church as they focused on Jesus?

4. Which of these parts of the early church do you regularly take part in? What is missing in your experience with the church?
5. Read Matthew 22:36-40. What did Jesus say are the commandments we are to live by?
6. What does it mean to love God with all your heart, soul, and mind? (Consider priorities in life, resources you have, how time is spent...)
7. What does it mean to love your neighbor as yourself? (Consider how you love yourself with your time and resources and how that should translate to loving others)
8. What spiritual goals will you focus on in 2022? How can we pray for you?

## **PRAYER**

Thank God for the fresh perspective he gives with the turning of the calendar to a new year. Ask him to help you identify those things in your life that need to change to bring you closer to a life centered on Jesus. Commit to loving him with your whole heart, soul, and mind, and loving others as you love yourself.