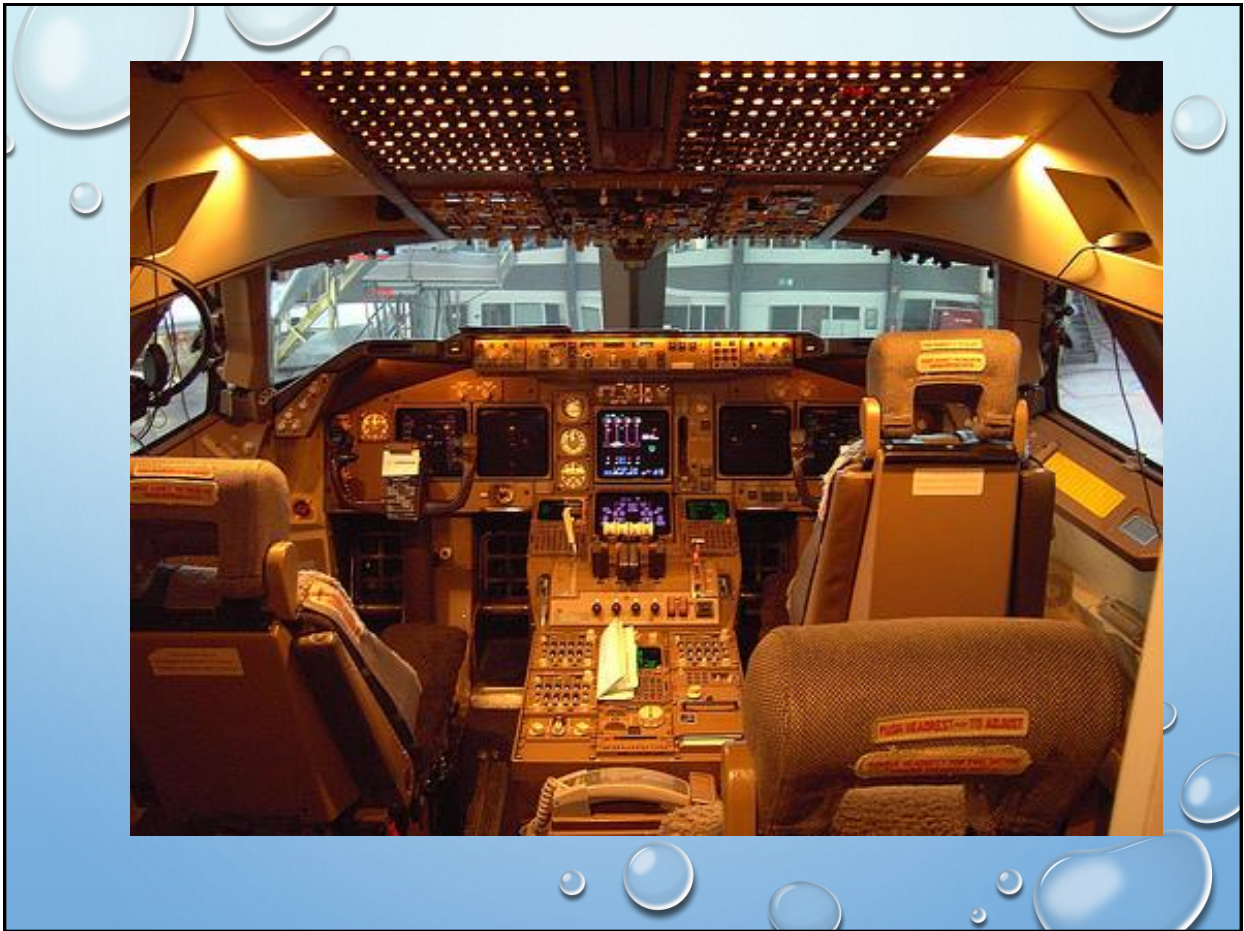



# LIVING WITH PURPOSE

UNITY



## FLYING A 747 VS KINGDOM BUILDING

- MAIN SIMILARITY
  - BOTH REQUIRE UNIFIED TEAMWORK FOR SUCCESS
- MAIN DIFFERENCE
  - KINGDOM BUILDING IS MUCH LESS COMPLEX

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- GOD HAS CALLED US TO PARTICIPATE IN BUILDING HIS KINGDOM
    - THE INSTRUCTIONS ARE SIMPLE
    - GOD EQUIPS AND EMPOWERS US TO SUCCEED

## ACTS 1-2 SUMMARY

- OUTLINES HISTORY OF ORIGIN OF CHURCH
- PROVIDES CHURCH BLUEPRINT AND ACTION PLAN

## CHURCH BLUEPRINT

- A FIRST COMING (1:1)
  - B BAPTIZED WITH SPIRIT (1:5)
    - C RESTORATION OF KINGDOM (1:6)
  - B' EMPOWERMENT BY SPIRIT (1:8)
- A' SECOND COMING (1:11)

## CHURCH ACTION PLAN

- A THE KERYGMA (2:22-24)
  - B PROOF FROM SCRIPTURE (2:25-28)
    - C INTERPRETATION OF SCRIPTURE (2:29-31)
      - D THE PROMISE (2:32-33)
    - C' INTERPRETATION OF SCRIPTURE (2:34A)
  - B' PROOF FROM SCRIPTURE (2:34B-35)
- A' THE KERYGMA (2:36)

## ACTS 2:40-47

- SHOWS HOW TO IMPLEMENT ACTION PLAN
- SHOWS RESULT OF PROPERLY IMPLEMENTED ACTION PLAN



## OUTCOME OF PETER'S SERMON

- <sup>ESV</sup> **ACTS 2:41** SO THOSE WHO RECEIVED HIS WORD WERE BAPTIZED, AND THERE WERE ADDED THAT DAY ABOUT THREE THOUSAND SOULS.
  - HOLY SPIRIT WORKED THROUGH PETER'S MINISTRY
  - <sup>NAS</sup> **1 CORINTHIANS 3:6** I PLANTED, APOLLOS WATERED, BUT GOD WAS CAUSING THE GROWTH.

## IMPLEMENTING THE ACTION PLAN

- A CONTINUAL CHRISTIAN DUTIES 2:42
- B ZEAL FOR GOD AND LOVE FOR NEIGHBOUR 2:43-45
- A' DAILY CHRISTIAN DUTIES 2:46A
- B' ZEAL FOR GOD AND LOVE OF NEIGHBOUR 2:46B-47A

## RIGHT MINDSET

- ZEAL FOR GOD AND LOVE FOR NEIGHBOUR
  - <sup>ESV</sup> **MATTHEW 22:37** AND HE SAID TO HIM, "YOU SHALL 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 GREAT AND FIRST COMMANDMENT. <sup>39</sup> AND A SECOND IS LIKE IT: YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF. <sup>40</sup> ON THESE TWO COMMANDMENTS DEPEND ALL THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS."

- <sup>NAS</sup> **ACTS 2:43** AND 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>NAS</sup> **ACTS 2:46** AND DAY BY DAY ...THEY WERE TAKING THEIR MEALS TOGETHER WITH GLADNESS AND SINCERITY OF HEART, <sup>47</sup> PRAISING GOD, AND HAVING FAVOR WITH ALL THE PEOPLE

## RIGHT ACTIONS

- <sup>NAS</sup> **ACTS 2:42** AND THEY WERE CONTINUALLY DEVOTING THEMSELVES TO THE APOSTLES' TEACHING AND TO FELLOWSHIP, TO THE BREAKING OF BREAD AND TO PRAYER.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **ACTS 2:46** AND DAY BY DAY CONTINUING WITH ONE MIND IN THE TEMPLE, AND BREAKING BREAD FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE ...

## CHRISTIAN DUTIES

- BIBLE STUDY

- <sup>NAS</sup> **ACTS 2:42** AND THEY WERE CONTINUALLY DEVOTING THEMSELVES TO THE APOSTLES' TEACHING ...

- WORSHIP

- <sup>NAS</sup> **ACTS 2:43** AND EVERYONE KEPT FEELING A SENSE OF AWE ...
- <sup>NAS</sup> **ACTS 2:46** AND DAY BY DAY CONTINUING WITH ONE MIND IN THE TEMPLE ...
- <sup>NAS</sup> **ACTS 2:47** PRAISING GOD ...

- PRAYER

- <sup>NAS</sup> **ACTS 2:42** AND THEY WERE CONTINUALLY DEVOTING THEMSELVES TO ... PRAYER.

- FELLOWSHIP

- <sup>NAS</sup> **ACTS 2:42** AND THEY WERE CONTINUALLY DEVOTING THEMSELVES TO ...FELLOWSHIP ...
- <sup>NAS</sup> **ACTS 2:46** AND DAY BY DAY CONTINUING WITH ONE MIND ... THEY WERE TAKING THEIR MEALS TOGETHER WITH GLADNESS AND SINCERITY OF HEART

- LORD'S SUPPER

- <sup>NAS</sup> **ACTS 2:42** AND THEY WERE CONTINUALLY DEVOTING THEMSELVES ... TO THE BREAKING OF BREAD
- <sup>NAS</sup> **ACTS 2:46** AND DAY BY DAY CONTINUING WITH ONE MIND ... BREAKING BREAD FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE ...
- VINCENT: BREAKING – “USED BY LUKE ONLY, AND ONLY IN THE PHRASE *BREAKING OF BREAD*. ... HENCE USED TO DESIGNATE THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER”.
- CALVIN: “I WOULD RATHER HAVE BREAKING OF BREAD TO BE UNDERSTOOD OF THE LORD'S SUPPER IN THIS PLACE”



## ORIGINAL REFORMED POSITION

- CALVIN: “WHAT WE HAVE HITHERTO SAID OF THE SACRAMENT, ABUNDANTLY SHOWS THAT IT WAS NOT INSTITUTED TO BE RECEIVED ONCE A-YEAR AND THAT PERFUNCTORILY ... BUT THAT ALL CHRISTIANS MIGHT HAVE IT IN FREQUENT USE, AND FREQUENTLY CALL TO MIND THE SUFFERINGS OF CHRIST, THEREBY SUSTAINING AND CONFIRMING THEIR FAITH ... THUS WE OUGHT ALWAYS TO PROVIDE THAT NO MEETING OF THE CHURCH IS HELD WITHOUT ... THE DISPENSATION OF THE SUPPER... EACH WEEK, AT LEAST, THE TABLE OF THE LORD OUGHT TO HAVE BEEN SPREAD FOR THE COMPANY OF CHRISTIANS, AND THE PROMISES DECLARED ON WHICH WE MIGHT THEN SPIRITUALLY FEED.”

## CHRISTIAN DUTIES AND UNITY

- THE FIRST FOUR DUTIES *DEMONSTRATE* UNITY
  - BIBLE STUDY, WORSHIP, PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP
- THE LORD'S SUPPER *DEVELOPS* UNITY
  - <sup>NAS</sup> **1 CORINTHIANS 10:17** SINCE THERE IS ONE BREAD, WE WHO ARE MANY ARE ONE BODY; FOR WE ALL PARTAKE OF THE ONE BREAD.

## THE LORD'S SUPPER IS OUR PASSOVER

- <sup>NAS</sup> **LUKE 22:15** AND HE SAID TO THEM, "I HAVE EARNESTLY DESIRED TO EAT THIS PASSOVER WITH YOU BEFORE I SUFFER; <sup>20</sup> ...THIS CUP WHICH IS Poured OUT FOR YOU IS THE NEW COVENANT IN MY BLOOD.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **1 CORINTHIANS 5:7** ...FOR CHRIST OUR PASSOVER ALSO HAS BEEN SACRIFICED. <sup>8</sup> LET US THEREFORE CELEBRATE THE FEAST ...

## IT IS COMMUNION WITH CHRIST

- <sup>NIV</sup> **1 CORINTHIANS 10:16** IS NOT THE CUP OF THANKSGIVING FOR WHICH WE GIVE THANKS A PARTICIPATION IN THE BLOOD OF CHRIST? AND IS NOT THE BREAD THAT WE BREAK A PARTICIPATION IN THE BODY OF CHRIST?
- <sup>NIV</sup> **2 PETER 1:4** THROUGH THESE HE HAS GIVEN US HIS VERY GREAT AND PRECIOUS PROMISES, SO THAT THROUGH THEM YOU MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE DIVINE NATURE ...

## OUTCOME

- LUKE CLOSES BY SHOWING THE OUTCOME OF IMPLEMENTING THE ACTION PLAN
  - RIGHT ATTITUDES AND RIGHT ACTIONS RESULT IN SPIRITUAL GROWTH
  - <sup>NIV</sup> **ACTS 2:47** ... AND THE LORD ADDED TO THEIR NUMBER DAILY THOSE WHO WERE BEING SAVED.

## CONCLUSIONS

- GOD CALLS US TO LOVE HIM AND OUR NEIGHBOUR
- GOD CALLS US TO UNITY
- GOD CALLS US TO REGULAR CHRISTIAN DUTIES
  - BIBLE STUDY, WORSHIP, PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP, LORD'S SUPPER
- WHEN WE LIVE OUT THESE CALLINGS WE WILL SEE CHURCH GROWTH
  - SPIRITUAL AND NUMERICAL