

CONTINUING  
WHAT JESUS  
STARTED

*A New Family*

***ACTS 2:42-47***  
*Page 759*

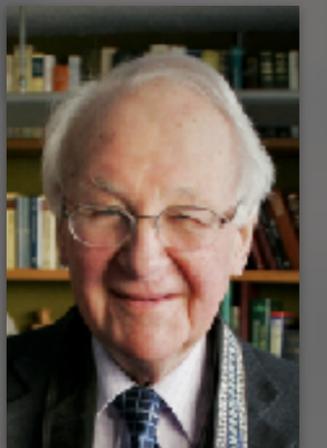


A yellow-tinted photograph of a church interior. In the foreground, the silhouettes of several people are visible, standing in a hallway or sanctuary. The background shows a row of lockers or storage cabinets with some items hanging on them. The overall atmosphere is quiet and contemplative.

***AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY :  
DEVOTED TO THE APOSTLES' DOCTRINE AND TEACHINGS...***

One of the clearest evidences of a Spirit-filled Christian is a hunger for Scripture and a humble submissiveness to the authority of Scripture as God's written Word. But show me a person who claims to be a Christian...yet is not devoting himself to the apostles' teaching, who rather neglects and even disregards it, and you give me cause to question whether he has received the Holy Spirit at all. For the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of truth. He is given to us to be our teacher, and those who are filled with him have a keen appetite for his instruction

**JOHN STOTT**





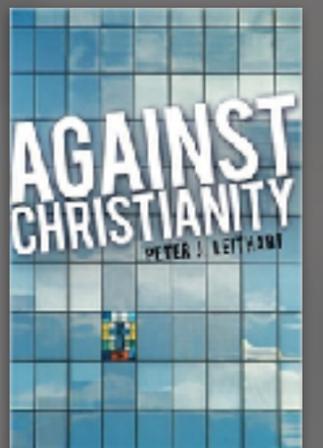
***AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY :  
DEVOTED TO THE APOSTLES' DOCTRINE AND TEACHINGS...***

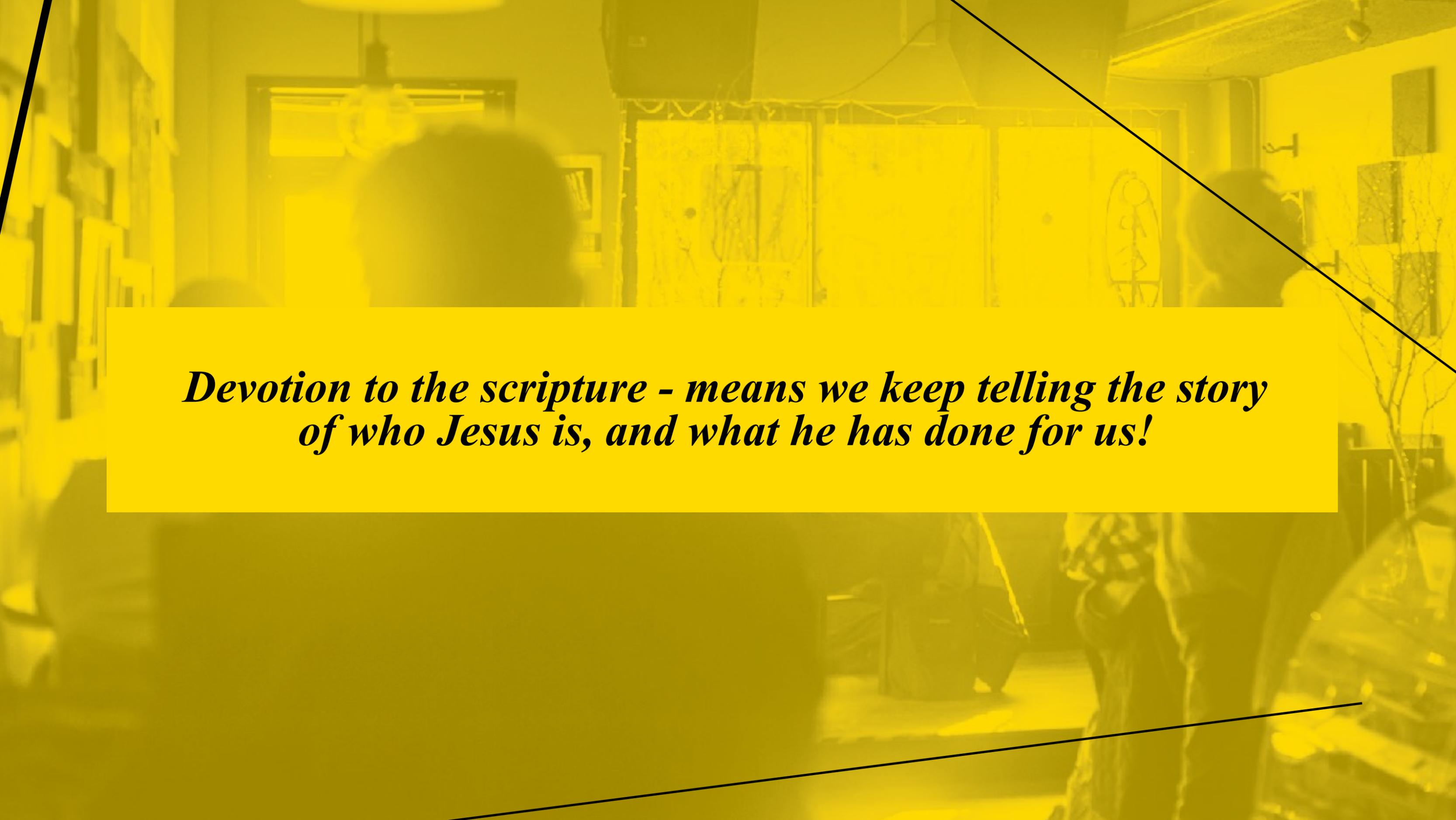
A yellow-tinted photograph of a community meeting. Several people are gathered around a table, looking at documents. The scene is brightly lit, and the overall atmosphere is one of active participation and collaboration. The text is overlaid on a white rectangular background in the center of the image.

***new community  
defined by new commitments  
and a new story***

Conversion does not simply install a new “religious” program over the existing operating system. It installed a new operating system. Christian community, by the same token, is not an extra “religious” layer on social life. The Church is not a club for religious people. The Church is a way of living together before God, a new way of being human together. What Jesus and the apostles proclaimed was not a new ideology or a new religion, in our attenuated modern sense. What they proclaimed was salvation, and that meant a new human world, a new social and political reality. They proclaimed that God had established the eschatological order of human life in the midst of history, not perfectly but truly... The gospel is the announcement of the Father’s formation, through His Son and the Spirit, of a new city—the city of God.

***PETER LEITHART - AGAINST CHRISTIANITY***



A yellow-tinted photograph of a church interior. In the background, several people are visible, some standing and some sitting. The scene is dimly lit, with light coming from windows or a doorway. The overall atmosphere is solemn and quiet. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent yellow rectangular box in the center of the image.

***Devotion to the scripture - means we keep telling the story  
of who Jesus is, and what he has done for us!***

A yellow-tinted photograph of a church interior. In the foreground, the silhouettes of several people are visible, looking towards the front of the sanctuary. The background shows a stage area with a large screen or altar, and a person standing on the right side. The overall atmosphere is bright and celebratory.

**42**

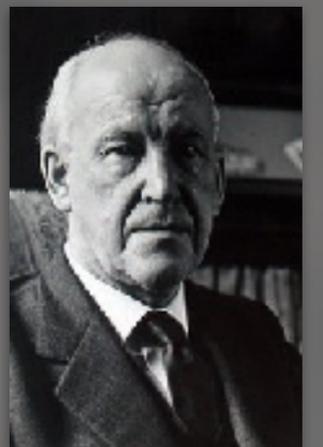
*People stood last week to  
commit to following Jesus!*

***AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY :  
DEVOTED TO FELLOWSHIP***



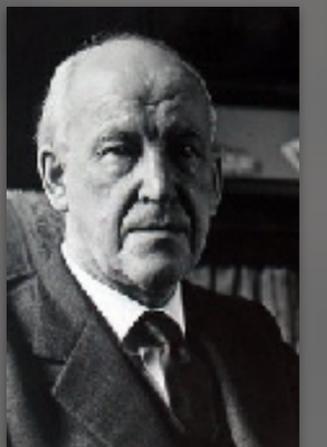
One day I suddenly realized, I'd become a Christian, because people who I'd never have chosen, people of a different class, people of a different race, people of a very different temperament, people I never would have liked, I am feeling a bond to. I feel a connection. I sense we're related to the Father through grace.

**DAVID MARTYN LLOYD-JONES**



Okay, some of these people are very difficult. Some of these people are not very pleasant. Some of these people are certainly not cool. They're not hip. They're not sophisticated. And all of a sudden, I don't care anymore! I feel a connection. I feel a love. I feel in many ways a connection with them, that I don't feel with people of my own class, who have not had the paradigm-shifting experience of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As Christians, we stop selecting and we stop auditioning people like we do in every other area of life. We've stopped auditioning people.

**DAVID MARTYN LLOYD-JONES**

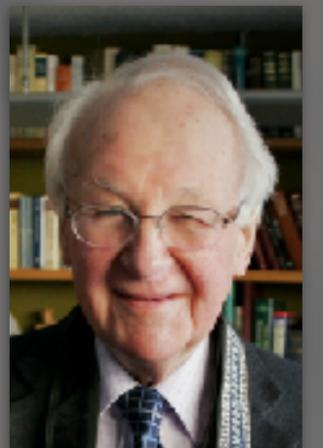


***AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY :  
DEVOTED TO FELLOWSHIP***



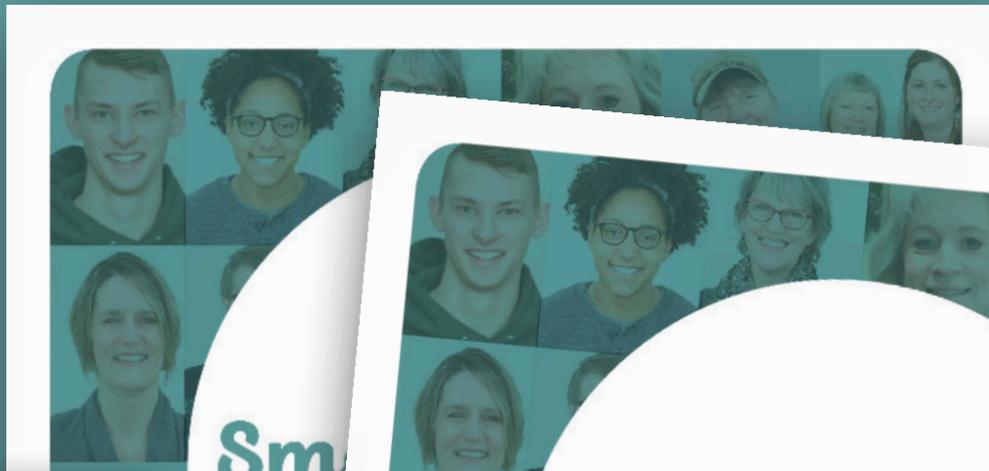
In such a dehumanized society the fellowship of the local church will become increasingly important, whose members meet one another, and talk and listen to one another in person...rather than on a screen.

**JOHN STOTT**



***AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY :  
DEVOTED IN THE BREAKING OF BREAD***





## ***WITHOUT A PLAN FOR FELLOWSHIP IN OUR LIVES***

- We are much more susceptible to temptation...
- We are much more likely to abandon the values of our faith and return to the values of the current culture around us...
- We are much more likely to let the lies of the enemy detour us spiritually...
- Without fellowship we are going to get lost...



***AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY :  
DEVOTED IN PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER***

Be devoted to one another in brotherly love,

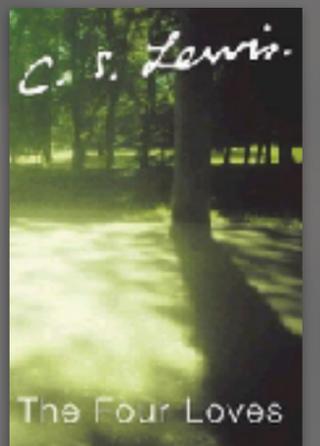
**ROMANS 12:10A (NASB)**

**Storgē (store-yeē) - Affection**



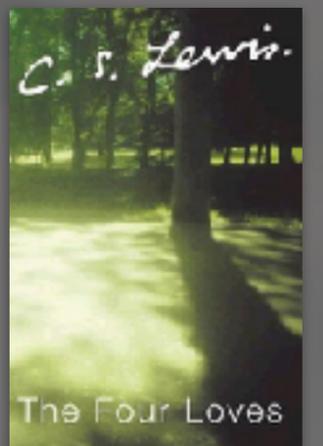
*“Storgē”* is not discriminating. Friends and lovers will say they were ‘made for each other.’ But the special glory of Storgē is it unites those who most emphatically, even comically, are not made for each other. Storgē exists between people who, if they had not found themselves in the same household or community, would have had nothing to do with each other.

**C.S. LEWIS - FOUR LOVES**



Growing fond of Old So-And-So simply because he or she happened to be there, because you're thrown together in the same family or the same platoon or the same ship, there's a wonder about that. For when you begin to say, she is not my sort of person, yet she's really very good in her own way,' you've crossed a frontier. It means you're getting beyond your own idiosyncrasies. You're beginning to learn to appreciate goodness or intelligence in themselves, not merely goodness or intelligence that is flavored and served to suit your tastes and views and your own palate.

***C.S. LEWIS - FOUR LOVES***



***AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY :  
DEVOTED TO THE MOVE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT***

***AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY :  
DEVOTED TO GENEROSITY***

All who believed were together and had all things in common.

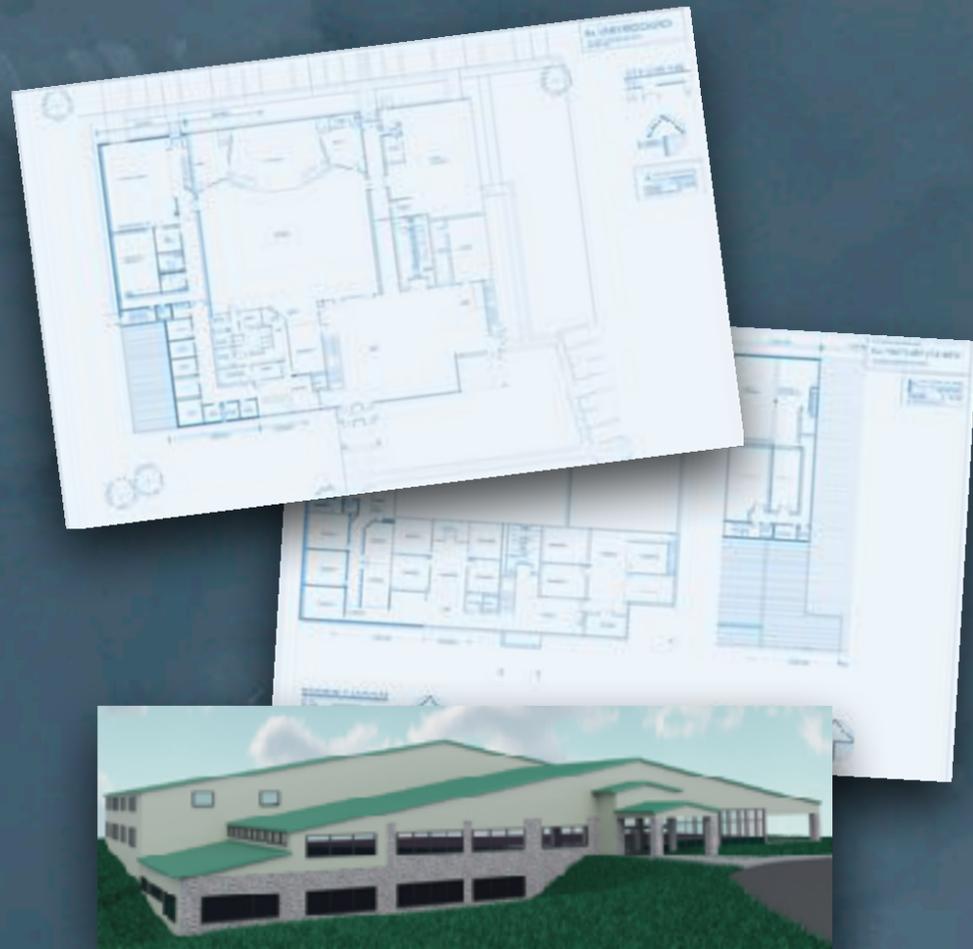
***ACTS 2:44***

***AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY :  
DEVOTED TO GENEROSITY***

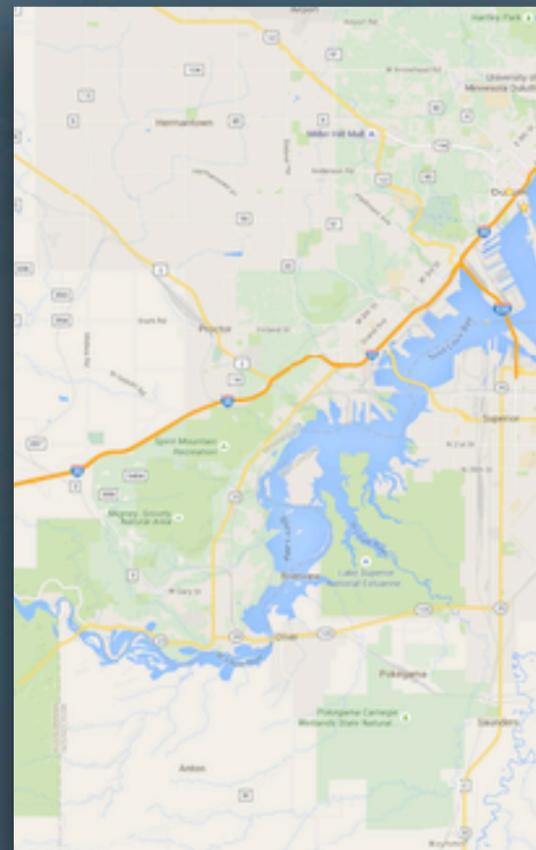
They sold their possessions and goods and divided them among all those in needs.

***ACTS 2:45***

# BUILDING COMMUNITIES *of Hope*



Expand Our Duluth Facility



Establish New Vineyard Churches



Extend Ourselves In World Missions

*So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.*

**ACTS 2:46-47**

A photograph of a street scene with several cars parked and driving, overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter. The text is centered in a white box on the green background. The background shows a street with cars, buildings, and utility poles. A sign with 'PE' is visible on the right. The overall scene is slightly blurred, suggesting motion or a shallow depth of field.

***A CHURCH DEVOTED TO THESE THINGS  
IS A VITAL GROWING CHURCH!***

# Baptism Class



CONTINUING  
WHAT JESUS  
STARTED

*A New Family*