Reflections on the Character of God

The reflection section has 5 scriptures that pertain to this week's aspect of God's character. Take one passage a day and reflect on it in the context you find. Note your insights.

The life response sections give you 2 more verses to ponder. These passages relate to your response to the name, title, or attribute of God. Write down practical responses.

Messiah (Christ)

iflection: Matthew 16:13-20; 26:62-64; John 4:13-26; Ac 29-41; 5:42, 9:22, 18:28, 26:19-23	ts
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e Response:	
Corinthians 5:17-21; 1 John 5:1	



A Discipleship Journey - Acts of The Holy Spirit The Church - February 13, 2022

Primary text: Acts 2:41-47

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. - vs.42

Where the spirit of God is at work, there is a <u>hunger</u> to know more about God.

The Greek word translated fellowship is Koinonia, and it's sometimes translated as giving or offering.

The early church is devoted to these essentials of Christian living.

- 1) The teaching of the Apostles
- 2) Fellowship
- 3) Breaking of bread
- 4) Prayer

And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. - vs. 43

The Greek word for awe can also be translated as fear or reverence; it's the word <u>Phobos.</u>

Awe is a sense of wonder and reverence.

When you are in awe, don't hesitate to give God glory!

And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.
- vs. 44-45

It was necessary that these new believers stay in Jerusalem and learn from the apostles, but they were not prepared financially to do so. The solution was sacrificial giving.

And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, - vs. 46

praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved. - vs. 47

The new believers have a completely different perspective than the Jews living in the area. They had a different understanding of the word of God and different priorities in life, and yet they had favor with all the people.

Why? They were filled with the Spirit and had the fruit of The Spirit.

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Discussion Questions:

Read Acts 2:41-47

- 1) What took place just before this passage?
- 2) To what did the early church devote themselves to? Discuss how we can do the same
- 3) What was the apostle's teaching?
- 4) What is "awe"?
- 5) Why did the believers share everything?
- 6) When and why should we sacrificially give?
- 7) Why did the early church have favor with all the people?
- 8) What causes the church to grow?
- 9) Looking at the basics of the early church, what do you need to devote yourself to again today?

Pray: Take some time to pray for one another in regards to the responses to question #9. Ask the Holy Spirit to work in and grow His church.