

**ACTS 2:41-47 (NASB)**

**41 So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.**

**42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.**

**43 Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles.**

**44 And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common;**

**45 and they began selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need.**

**46 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart,**

**47 praising God and having favor with all the people And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.**

1. **Unifying Presence** of God (v. 43)
2. **Unity** among the **People** of God. (vv. 44-45)
3. **Unified** in their **Passion** for God (v. 42)
4. **Unified** in their **Praise** of God (v. 46)
5. **Unifying Presents** of God (v. 47)

**“If you choose to listen for and hear from ME what I am saying to you, if you choose to follow after ME, then I will bring about an unusual oneness in this body that would please ME and would bring about MY special favor over you”.**

### **THE SHEPHERD'S PEN -**

*How's our listening going so far?*

**Are we actively listening to our Shepherd? Is His voice resonating within us such that we can't help but to respond? I mean, is it getting more difficult to ignore His constant beckoning?**

**What God has shown me is that I need to listen to Him from a posture of expectation and responsiveness. So I begin to listen for my Shepherd with expectant ears knowing that He will speak, because this is what He says He does (John 10:27). Also, I start responding to what He's to say to me with an attitude of praise and thanksgiving (Psalm 100:4). Because His Word to me is Life (Psalm 119:37), bringing light to my darkness (John 8:12), truth to the lies that haunt me (John 14:6), and hope to my every despair (Jeremiah 29:11).**

**It's His voice that reveals His heart to me. That's why it's important that I maintain a responsive posture. Always ready to answer when He calls. Being in a state of response to the Lord is about finding out what's on His heart, His mind and being ready to follow His agenda. This is active listening. The kind of listening that pleases the Lord, responding to His love by loving and honoring Him in return. This kind of listening affirms Him as our Shepherd. After all, *“we are His people and the sheep of His pasture”* (Psalm 100:3).**