

SPIRITUAL LIFE MESSAGE

Song: "In Christ There Is No East or West"

Prayer: As the Spirt Leads **Scripture:** Acts 2: 42-47

Meditation

Strengthening Relationships

The above Scripture ignites a fire within me and inspires me to strengthen my relationships with the members in my church community. The members of the early church were role models for me, as well as the church of today. They devoted themselves to praying, studying, and worshipping together, meeting the needs of one another and fellowshipping. They were a community of believers, living lives pleasing to God. In so doing, they were developing and strengthening their relationships with one another, as well as with God.

It seems relationship development in our church communities is not as strong today. A considerable number of church communities do not spend much time praying together. For many, this time has dwindled to a prayer, with prayer requests, before Bible study sessions start, and fellowship is limited to special day services with dinner following. Concerns of contracting COVID have many believers disinclined to return to the church building. This, along with technology at the touch of our fingertips, have left many of today's believers lacking in the areas of fellowshipping and coming together for corporate worship. The limited time praying together, along with the ability to attend worship services and Bible study sessions have limited our relationship building.

Many of you are familiar with the song "Give Me that Old Time Religion." I say, "Take me back to the practices of the early church." Going back will strengthen our relationship building with God and the members of our church communities. Strengthening our relationships will help us to better meet each other's needs and encourage one another. Going back to the practices of the early church may even serve as a catalyst for non-believers to accept Christ as their savior and become members of our respective church communities.

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for the guidance you have given us through the practices of the early church. Please continue to bless us with the presence of your Holy Spirit and help us to live lives that honor and glorify you. In Jesus name we pray. Amen

Polishing Your Communication Power

1. apocalyptic 2. consecration 3. pundit 4. compatible

- ___ a. the action of making or declaring something
- ____ b. able to exist or occur together without conflict
- c. a person who gives opinions in an authoritative manner
- d. forecasting the ultimate destiny of the world

Last Month's Answers 1-c 2-a 3-d 4-c

May Word Search Answers

Forsythia National Teacher Day Anemones Bleeding Heart Freesia Peony Heather Stargazer Brunnera Cinco De Mayo Lei Day Trillium Clematis Magnolia Victoria Day **Daffodils** May Day World Day of Prayer Memorial Day Yarrow Emerald Flower Moon Mother's Day Zenia

T T T R A E H G N I D E E L B U G I K X H D G F Z I A F G U F L OWERMOON T V Z S P P F O ADIEKYIDOOWIECZHVKXINKDR I A L D N U A R S G F P I K S E N O M E N A I S Q F O E L E R O H E R N K U Q R W D Q A N N U Y RFNTMADVVICTORIADAYANGMT NOGMYWRDLOEYICDKHITIQEYH YDABJVREDXBBLBNMQIEYMKUI A I M B K U C E M T T F E G K D O G T O I R E A **DL**ARHOMCREZUBGGNCFROEEAS I S R Q C A K I M Y E L M W A L U I R Z K R B W ENQOYRLAJCNLDLEFAGAEEJZI L D Y O Z L G R K W I I T M Z L F G Y N E N V W CUK**AI**LWHIM**AEA**V**D**V**R**U**N**IW**S**AG FCLUDMNKSJATEAGAYUADPAIH F J M L H S G G P C I Q Y Y T H R N U O I J D A FSQHJNRAHSYFPSZBQRUIGKFT NHBFEDREYARPFOYADDLROWUY PWKTH**ARLH**JPQXZLRJESEZOT**N** FQNII**DT**KQ**T**NN**YADYAM**JWMWD**O** BOHZAFJHBQOTNZUSBWOCJAJE UGD YGM I WELK MUDOQD TLWW I KP RMYOCPJAQ**R**KFKRUAMXAHMPNY