Loving and Caring for One Another Loving God, Loving Others, Making Disciples Acts 2:37-47 9-26-21

I. The Lord Loves and Cares for His People. (Acts 2:37-47)

Isaiah 54:10 - "Though the mountains be <u>shaken</u>, and the hills be <u>removed</u>, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken..." says the LORD, who has compassion on you."

II. The Elders Love and Care for God's People.

Hebrews 13:7 – "Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the <u>Word of God</u>. Consider the outcome of <u>their way of life</u> and <u>imitate their faith</u>."

Acts 14:23 – "(They) appointed elders in every church..."

1 Timothy 3:2 – "Therefore an overseer must be above reproach... hospitable...able to teach..."

Acts 20:18-20 — "...You <u>yourselves know how I lived among you</u>...<u>serving</u>...<u>humility</u>...<u>tears</u> and <u>trials</u>...I did not shrink from <u>declaring to you anything that was profitable</u>...teaching you <u>in public</u> and from <u>house to house</u>..."

1 Timothy 3:4-5 – "<u>He</u> must manage his own household well... (if not) how will <u>he care for God's church</u>?"

III. God's People Love and Care for God's People. (Acts 2:42-47)

- 1. John 13:34 "Jesus said, ...as I have loved you...love one another."
- 2. Romans 15:7 "<u>Welcome one another</u> as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God."
- 3. Galatians 5:13 "...through love <u>serve one another</u>."
- 4. Hebrews 10:24- 25 "<u>stir up one another</u>...<u>meet together</u>...keep <u>encouraging one</u> another...all the more as you see the Day drawing near."
- Romans 15:14 "... instruct one another."
 Colossians 3:16 "...admonishing one another..."
- 6. Ephesians 5:19 "Address one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs..."

- 7. 2 Corinthians 13:11 "Comfort one another."
- 8. Colossians 3:13 "Bear with one another...forgiving each other."
- 9. James 5:16 "Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another (and) be healed."
- 10. 1 Peter 4:9 "Show hospitality to one another without grumbling."

Going Deeper This Week

- 1. The early church knew their dependence upon God and their need for community. Read Acts chapters one and two. Discuss what you see about God's faithfulness and the need for a Biblical and Spirit-led encouraging faith community. Stop and pray that God will continue to build His Kingdom, His way, for His glory at MCC.
- 2. "There is a lot going on in Acts 2:38-47. Write down what the church was doing for "one another" and the need each one was meeting. For example, "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching." (Growth in Christ)
- 3. Which do you see practiced at MCC? Which are you wanting to grow in today?
- 4. What does it mean in daily life to love our neighbor as ourselves? (See Galatians 2:1-10)
- 5. What were the results of the church trusting God and practicing the "one another love"? For example, "they were all filled with awe."
- 6. What are the benefits when a church takes seriously the art of encouragement and the willingness to live in accountability to one another?
- 7. Discuss the "one another" scriptures from Sunday and use them to pray for one another and MCC.