



# *Lesson #3 = God's Family*

## **GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST**

*Sermon by Ray Reynolds on Sunday AM (10-21-12)*

**TEXT: (Acts 2:41-47)**

**Introduction:** The next several months will be very exciting for our church family as we build our new multi-purpose building. For the past few Sundays we have considered God's vision for building His church (the people, not the building). Today we are going to consider the church as God's family. What can we learn from the early church? How did they G.R.O.W.? Let's study together.....

**Discussion:**

### ***I. The Church Family Was Godly***

Their godliness came from a sacrificial spirit.

**Acts 2:44-45, II Corinthians 8:5, 12:15, Romans 12:1-2**

Their godliness followed a steadfast faith in the Lord.

**Acts 2:43-44, Romans 10:17, Hebrews 11:6**

Their godliness established strong faithfulness to church.

**Acts 2:42, 47, Hebrews 10:24-25, Acts 20:7**

Their godliness led them to be significant examples to others.

**Acts 43, 47, Philippians 2:15, Matthew 5:14-16, Revelation 2:5**

### ***II. The Church Family Was Receptive***

They were receptive because they had open hearts and minds.

**Acts 2:37, 41, Matthew 28:18-20, Colossians 1:23**

They were receptive because they believed their message.

**Acts 2:40-41, 44, Acts 4:19-20, Philippians 4:22**

They were receptive because they were unwilling to change the truth.

**Acts 2:42, Galatians 1:10, Acts 8:4; II Corinthians 11:23-28**

They were receptive because they were full of the Holy Spirit.

**Acts 2:38-39, I Corinthians 6:19-20, Romans 8:1-39, Galatians 5:22-23**

### ***III. The Church Family Was Obedient***

Their obedience led them to be steadfast.

**Acts 2:42, I Corinthians 15:58, Romans 12:12, Colossians 1:23**

Their obedience led them to be united.

**Acts 2:44-45, Acts 8, 11, 15, Galatians 5:15**

Their obedience led them to be peaceful.

**Acts 2:44-45, Matthew 18:15-17, Acts 6:1, Romans 14:19, Ephesians 4:3**

Their obedience led them to be joyful.

**Acts 2:46-47, Philippians 4:4, John 15:11, 16:24**

### ***IV. The Church Family Was Working***

They worked to be faithful in worship.

**Acts 2:42, John 4:24, Acts 20:7**

They worked to use their talents.

**Acts 2:43, Ephesians 4:11-16, Matthew 25:14-30**

They worked to take care of the needs of others.

**Acts 2:44-45, Acts 4:32-25, Philippians 2:4**

They worked to please God, not men.

**Acts 2:46-47, Acts 2:47, Acts 4:4, 9:31, Ephesians 4:16**

**Conclusion:** God will build His church and He will lead His family. Are you seeking God's vision and dream for your life? Are you helping to build on the dream for His church? Are you following your Heavenly Father? Let's get right church!

***WORD OF THE DAY = "Vision"***