



**Don't be alone...our doors/zoom chats  
are always open.**

**(well, technically not doors at the moment, but we are all still here!)**

On the first Pentecost Sunday thousands heard Peter preach and wanted to become Christians...

*Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all. All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer. A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved. (Acts 2:41-47 from the NLT)*

We read that as soon as they had made their decision and been baptised, the new Christians joined in with the original followers of Jesus, meeting to worship together, sharing meals and belongings, taking communion together to remember Jesus' death and praying together. They also saw the disciples healing people and listened to the disciples' teaching. Although they met to worship in the Temple most of what they did happened in each other's home – Church happened as they met together not just in one building. These early Christians really wanted to be together, to share their lives together, to continuously be praising God and marvelling about how awesome He is.

Those of us who go to Church may feel that somehow the sparkle has disappeared, but we should remember that God is the same today as He was then and if we have faith, then we can be as enthusiastic as those early Christians – we may just have to look a little harder to find others with the same enthusiasm.

It is important to keep on meeting together, on zoom and other media at the moment, so that everyone can encourage others and be encouraged themselves. Although we can worship God on our own, we can pray to Him and read the Bible – there is something very special about doing these things with other people. Jesus saw it as crucial because He said that He would build His church (Matthew 16:17-18) and He also said that when even just 2 or 3 people meet together to pray and worship then He is there with them (Matthew 18:20).

So even if you think the normal Sunday morning is not for you, it's really important to meet together with other Christians and probably with a few older believers who can teach you and encourage you in your faith. Join in with HP23 & Up on their Monday evening zoom youth group and we hope to see you on Sunday too even if it's just for a wave and quick hello xxx

**xxx Keep in touch with each other, and us xxx**

*Do you enjoy writing? Write about your lockdown story so far and we will publish it in the midweek update so we can all share in your experiences.*

