

**A GRACE-filled Life****Today's Reading****Acts 2:1-47**

As part of my high school biology lab, I had to dissect a cat cadaver. Once below the surface, I identified muscles and organs that I wouldn't have seen otherwise. There are some parallels between my lab experience and what we want to accomplish in our current weekend/devotional series. Minus the formaldehyde and the gore, we will take a closer look at the "anatomy of grace."

The latter verses of Acts 2 give us some insight into the results of grace in our lives and into some of the dimensions of the GRACE acrostic our church uses to define our values. You see, God desires that you become one of His fully-devoted followers. What is included in that kind of life? When we look below the surface, we see that His followers...

- **Grow** - "They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching...and to prayer." There are still great mysteries that God wants to unfold for you that will change how you live and think!

- **Reach** - "...enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily..." Your life is surrounded by people in need of the Savior.
- **Act** - "Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need." Through serving, your faith becomes visible and tangible.
- **Connect** - "Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes..." Other believers in your church family will become dearer to you than they already are.
- **Exalt** - "Everyone was filled with awe" and they were "praising God." The wonder you experience will overflow in worship.

**GRACE**

Over the next few weeks, we want to take a closer look at each one of these. Along the way, you will discover how essential each of those five values is to your life. Why not, even today, do what those early followers did..."devote yourself" to these things?