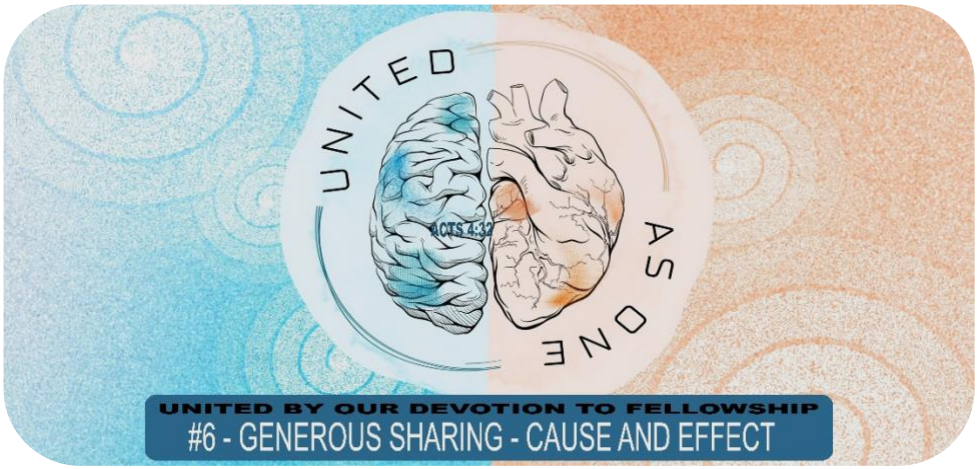

And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts **Acts 2:46** ESV

HOW CAN I DEVELOP A "JERUSALEM-LIKE DEVOTION" TO GENEROSITY?

1. **By sharing their_____ An attitude of _____.**

The whole congregation of believers was united as one—one heart, one mind! They didn't even claim ownership of their own possessions. No one said, "That's mine; you can't have it." They shared everything. **Acts 4:32** MP

The very spring of our actions is the love of Christ. We look at it like this: if one died for all men … and his purpose in dying for them is that their lives should now be no longer lived for themselves but for him who died and rose again for them. **2 Corinthians 5:14 Phillips**

Don't let selfishness…take over... [4] Get beyond yourselves and protecting your own interests; [5] In other words, adopt the mind-set of Jesus the Anointed. Live with His attitude in your hearts. Remember:[6] Though He was in the form of God, He chose not to cling to equality with God; [7] But He poured Himself out… **Philippians 2:3, 4-7a** VOICE

Giving grows out of the heart—otherwise, you've reluctantly grumbled "yes" because you felt you had to or because you couldn't say "no," but this isn't the way God wants it. For we know that "God loves a cheerful giver." **2 Corinthians 9:7** VOICE

2. **By sharing their _____ Acts that _____ selflessness.**

And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. [45] They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. **Acts 2:44, 45** NLT

And so it turned out that not a person among them was needy. Those who owned fields or houses sold them and brought the price of the sale to the apostles and made an offering of it. The apostles then distributed it according to each persons needs. **Acs 4:35** MP

Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement"), [37] sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet. **Acts 4:36, 37** NIV

[6]We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters...[18] Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions. [19] Our actions will show that we belong to the truth, so we will be confident when we stand before God. **1 John 3:16, 18, 19 NIV**

3. **By sharing their _____. Note the four areas of impact.**

All the believers were together and had everything in common [45]They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. [46] 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— [47] 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 2:45-47** NLT

- **The Impact of a _____ _____ .**
- **The Impact of _____ _____ .**
- **The Impact of _____ _____ .**
- **The Impact of _____ _____ .**

NOTE: Both _____ and _____ have impact.

Where ·jealousy [or envy] and ·selfishness [selfish ambition] are, there will be ·confusion [chaos; disorder] and every ·kind of evil [evil thing/practice].
James 3:16 EXB

Additional Notes:

Reflecting on todays message…

What touched my heart?

What is God asking me to do?

What should I change this week?

Who else needs to hear this message?