New Testament Church Growth

Text: Acts 2:36–47

Introduction
Church growth requires planning, prayer, promotion, and preparation. The Scriptures tell us how a New Testament church should grow. The Christians:

Message
1. Declared the Word of God (verses 36–40).
   a. Had a desire to change their part of the world.
   b. Realized the power of the gospel.
   c. Were dedicated.
2. Continued in doctrine (verse 42).
   a. Listened.
   b. Continued to learn.
   c. Had solid teaching upon which to stand.
3. Had fellowship (verses 42, 46).
   a. Partook of the Lord’s Supper.
   b. Visited one another.
   c. Retained their contact.
4. Prayed (verses 42, 46).
   a. Daily.
   b. Sought God.
   c. Interceded.
5. Saw miracles (verse 43).
   a. Miracles pointed to God as source.
   b. The age of miracles had not left.
   c. Miracles are seen today.
6. Were givers (verse 45).
   a. Invested in support of the ministry.
   b. Gave of their best.
   c. “God loves a cheerful giver.”
7. Were joyful (verse 46).
   a. Christian joy is contagious.
   b. “The joy of the Lord is our strength.”
8. Were united (verse 46).
   a. Unity is essential to be effective in ministry.
   b. Unity held the group together and it still holds the church together.
9. Had favor (verse 47).
   a. God gives the Christian the advantage.
   b. The Hebrews “spoiled” the Egyptians when they left Egypt.
10. Saw growth (verse 47).
    a. Spiritual.
    b. Numerical.
    c. Financial.

Conclusion
Church growth takes work; but the effort, time, and work are worthwhile. As these principles are applied, our churches will see continued growth spiritually, numerically, and financially.
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