## WE ARE FAMILY What Every Christian Needs to Grow - Part 3

**Romans 12:5** "So in Christ, we who are many form one body, and each member <u>belongs to all the others</u>."

**Galatians 6:10** "... let us do good to all people, especially those who belong to the family of believers."

I. THE AMAZING GROWTH OF THE
II. WHERE DID THEY?
Acts 5:42 "(They met) day after day, in the <u>Temple courts</u> and <u>from house to house</u> ."  Romans 16:5 "Greet the church that meets <u>in their home</u> ."
What's the advantage of meeting in homes?
1) It's
2) It's
3) It's
4) It
III.HOW DID THEY
1. A growing church is
Acts 6:1 "In those days the number of disciples was increasing"
2. Church growth causes
Acts 6:1b (LB) " there were rumblings of discontent"
3. Problems are always

Acts 6:1c (GN) "The Greek speaking Jews claimed their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food."
4. The pastors cannot
Acts 6:2 "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables."
5 are to assist the pastors.
Acts 6:3 "Choose seven men full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them"
6. The pastors are to focus on
Acts 6:4 "We will give our attention to prayer and the teaching of the Word."
7. The result of lay ministry was
Acts 6:5,7 "This proposal pleased the whole group So the word of God spread and the number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly."
IV. WHAT DID THE FIRST?
1
Acts 2:42a "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching"
2
Acts 2:42b " and to the fellowship"
3
Acts 2:42c " and to the breaking of bread"

4
Acts 2:42d " and to prayer"
5
Acts 2:45 " they gave to anyone as he had a need"
6
Acts 2:46 " they ate together with glad and sincere hearts"
7
Acts 2:47a "praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people"
8
Acts 2:47b "And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."
V. WHY SHOULD I?
1. I'll understand
2. I'll feel like a
3. Prayer will become
4. I'll be able to
5. It's a natural, relaxed way
6. It will develop
7. It will deepen my

- **Ephesians 2:19 (LB)** "... you are members of God's very own family ... and you belong in God's household with every other Christian."
- **Hebrews 10:25** "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us <u>encourage</u> one another."