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westvalleychurch.com

West Valley Church  
January 22, 2012

## Awkward Family Photos Part 1: The Picture of Learning Acts 2:42-47

### 1. Unified

- Ephesians 4:3; Romans 14:19; Hebrews 12:14;  
Ephesians 4:4-6

### 2. Passionately Committed

- Luke 21:19; 1 Corinthians 16:13; 2 Thessalonians 2:15;  
2 Peter 1:12-13

### 3. The Word of God

- John 14:23-26; 1 Peter 1:23; 1 Thessalonians 2:13;  
Hebrews 4:12; Ephesians 5:25-26; Luke 11:28

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**Talking it over (use this for discussion around your community group):**

- ◆ Read the main passage for today (on the top of the other side)
- ◆ What was the worst picture of yourself that you've had taken? Has your family ever had a photo taken together that you would describe as "awkward"? Describe the photo or the circumstances.
- ◆ If you were to ask your friends who do not attend church how they "picture" the church (in general), what would they say?
- ◆ If you were to ask them how they "picture" West Valley Church, what would they say?
- ◆ If they were to ask you how you "picture" West Valley Church, what would you say?
- ◆ What should the picture of the church be? Would that be appealing to your unchurched friends? Why or why not?
- ◆ If there is a difference between the two descriptions, why do you think that is? What can we as a church do to portray a less awkward, more correct picture of the church?

**Digging Deeper (if you still have time, or for further study later, go through these questions):**

- ◆ In the main passage that you read above, what parts are unique to the first century church and its circumstance? What should apply to the church of today?
- ◆ When verse 42 says "all the believers," do you think that is a general term, or that it really was "all" of them? How does our church reflect this (or not)? Should we? Why? What difference would that make?
- ◆ Read Ephesians 4:3. Give examples of how our church does this and could do better. How good are you at this?
- ◆ How devoted are you to your faith? Be honest in your assessment of yourself, and, if you are willing, share with those around your table.
- ◆ Read 1 Corinthians 16:13. In light of this, what might you need to do differently in your faith?
- ◆ What is "the Apostle's Teaching"? How devoted are you to God's Word? If you are comfortable, spend some time around your table praying for each other to be more devoted.
- ◆ **Re-read through your notes. Review the main points and read the Scripture references that are provided for you.**