



Imagine More Part 2 | Acts 4:32-35; John 13:34-35; Luke 22:24-27 | March 11, 2018

Warm Up: Our imaginations grow as we surround ourselves with a community of like-minded people. Have you experienced a community that encouraged your imagination? What impact did that have on your life?

- ❖ Read **Acts 4:32-35** aloud. The early church served as a model of what gospel-centered community can be:
 1. **They identified with their church community (v. 32).** Why is being “united in heart and mind” important in fostering community? Describe a time when you were part of a community where you had unity, and one where you had disunity, what was the result of each? How do we foster this unity amongst the church community?
 2. **They retained possession of goods, yet viewed them as available to sell if need arose (v. 32).** What does this characteristic say about their community? Their possessions ultimately belonged to God. They were simply stewards. If God asked you to sell something of value to help another, would you? Has this ever happened?
 3. **They sold assets to provide for those in need among them (v. 34).** Have you experienced this type of generosity from others? What impact did this have on your faith? What impact does this type of generosity have on community?
 4. **They developed a centralized system for those in need, overseen by the Apostles (v. 35, 37).** They were so mindful of the needs of others, that they needed infrastructure to distribute resources. How mindful are you of the needs around you? Is there a need God has put on your heart that you can help with?
- ❖ The early church was characterized by humility. Authentic community can only be achieved if the clamoring for power stops and a renewed spirit of service prevails. Why can humility be such a hard thing to practice? How does “humility” foster community, and grow us in our relationship with Christ?

Wrap Up: Imagination within the context of community helps us to dream and desire more than we ever thought possible. The early church understood this; they had the humility and foundation of faith to participate in this community and imagine more of what God could do. How do you sense God calling you to invest more time, money, or resources within the ministry of The Shoreline? Share and pray for new opportunities to partner with Jesus in the up-building of His church!