

# The Active Church

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# First Century Christians

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- Were actively working

# Ephesians 4:16

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... the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

# First Century Christians

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- Were actively working
- Were active on a daily basis
  - In prayer (Matt. 6:11)

# Matthew 6:11

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Give us this day our daily bread.

# First Century Christians

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- Were actively working
- Were active on a daily basis
  - In prayer (Matt. 6:11)
  - In study (Acts 17:11)

# Acts 17:11

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These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.

# First Century Christians

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- Were actively working
- Were active on a daily basis
  - In prayer (Matt. 6:11)
  - In study (Acts 17:11)
  - In fellowship (Acts 2:46)



# Acts 2:46

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So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart,

# First Century Christians

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- Were actively working
- Were active on a daily basis
  - In prayer (Matt. 6:11)
  - In study (Acts 17:11)
  - In fellowship (Acts 2:46)
  - In exhorting one another (Heb. 3:12-13)

## Hebrews 3:12-13

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Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; 13 but exhort one another daily, while it is called "TODAY," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

# First Century Christians

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- Were actively working
- Were active on a daily basis
  - In prayer (Matt. 6:11)
  - In study (Acts 17:11)
  - In fellowship (Acts 2:46)
  - In exhorting one another (Heb. 3:12-13)
  - In true discipleship (Luke 9:23-25)

## Luke 9:23-25

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Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. 24 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it. 25 For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and is himself destroyed or lost?"

# First Century Christians

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- Were actively working
- Were active on a daily basis
- Were active on a weekly basis
  - In the Lord's Supper (Acts 20:7)

# Acts 20:7

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Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight.

# First Century Christians

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- Were actively working
- Were active on a daily basis
- Were active on a weekly basis
  - In the Lord's Supper (Acts 20:7)
  - In monetary offerings (1 Cor. 16:2)



# 1 Corinthians 16:2

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**On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside**, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come.

# First Century Christians

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- Were actively working
- Were active on a daily basis
- Were active on a weekly basis
  - In the Lord's Supper (Acts 20:7)
  - In monetary offerings (1 Cor. 16:2)
  - In assembling with the saints (Heb. 10:24-25)

## Hebrews 10:24-25

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And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

# First Century Christians

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- Were actively working
- Were active on a daily basis
- Were active on a weekly basis
- Were active as they had opportunity
  - In good works (Gal. 6:10)

# Galatians 6:10

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Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.

# First Century Christians

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- Were actively working
- Were active on a daily basis
- Were active on a weekly basis
- Were active as they had opportunity
  - In good works (Gal. 6:10)
  - In teaching others (1 Pet. 3:15)

# 1 Peter 3:15

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But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

# Spiritual Apathy

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- Symptoms:
  - Not spiritually motivated
  - Spiritual pursuits are no longer interesting
  - Fervency for Jesus and His church has cooled
- If untreated:
  - Apathy => Inactivity => Atrophy
- The cure: Rev. 2:4-5



## Revelation 2:4-5

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Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love. 5 Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place - unless you repent.

# “Do the first works”

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- “Deny yourself, take up your cross daily, and follow Me”
- “Exhort one another daily”
- “Do this in remembrance of Me”
- “Do not forsake the assembling of yourselves together”
- “Be careful to maintain good works”

## Revelation 2:4-5

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Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love. 5 Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place - unless you repent.

# Exhort one Another

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**1 Thess. 5:11** - Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

**Heb. 3:12-13** - Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; but exhort one another daily, while it is called "TODAY," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

**Heb. 10:24–25** - And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 ...encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.