

## **The Book of Acts: Better Together**

### **Acts 4:32-37**

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*Can two walk TOGETHER, unless they are agreed?*

**Amos 3:3 (NKJV)**

### **ACTS 4 LAST WEEK WE STUDIED...**

I. THE TRANSCENDENCE OF THEIR PRAYER

II. THE TRUTH OF THEIR PRAYER

III. THE TNT OF THEIR PRAYER

### **TOGETHERNESS OF THEIR PRAYER**

#### **Acts 4:32-37 (NKJV)**

<sup>32</sup> Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common.

<sup>33</sup> And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup> Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, <sup>35</sup> and laid them at the apostles' feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need. <sup>36</sup> And Joses, who was also named Barnabas by the apostles (which is translated Son of Encouragement), a Levite of the country of Cyprus, <sup>37</sup> having land, sold it, and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

*How wonderful it is, how pleasant, when brothers live together in harmony!*

**Psalm 133:1**

**Together:** Greek Word Transliteration: homothymadon

This word denotes the inner unity of a group of people engaged in an externally similar action. It can thus be rendered "with one mind."

Theological Dictionary of the New Testament - Theological Dictionary of the New Testament – Volume V.

**This word is used only eleven times in Scripture.**

**Ten of those times are found in Acts, one is found in Romans.**

Together in prayer (Acts 1:14; Acts 4:24).

Together in one place (Acts 2:1).

Together in daily worship and the Lord's supper (Acts 2:46; Acts 5:12).

Together in obedience (Acts 8:6).

Together in a business meeting (Acts 15:25).

Togetherness is needed to glorify God (Romans 15:6).

## **STRENGTH IN NUMBERS**

### ***Proverbs 6:6 (NLT)***

<sup>6</sup> *Take a lesson from the ants, you lazybones. Learn from their ways and become wise! A single ant isn't very impressive but a colony of ants is amazing.*

**Ant Fact 1:** The total weight of all the ants in the world is the same as, if not larger than that of all humans.

**Ant Fact 2:** Some ants can support up to 100x their own weight upside down on glass.

**Ant Fact 3:** The largest ant colony ever found was over 6000 Km or 3750 miles wide.

**Ant Fact 4:** Ants are the longest living of all insects, living for up to 30 years.

**Ant Fact 5:** Ants and humans are the only creatures that farm other creatures.

**Ant Fact 6:** All worker, soldier and queen ants are female. Nearly all the ants you see in the wild are female.

Source: <http://antark.net/ant-facts/>

## **TOGETHER IN UNITY**

<sup>32</sup> *Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul;*

**Jesus said in John 17:21,** "...that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also may be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me."

## **TOGETHER IN GRACE & POWER**

<sup>33</sup> *And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all.*

## **TOGETHER IN GENEROSITY**

<sup>34</sup> *Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, <sup>35</sup> and laid them at the apostles' feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need.*

**Not socialism or communism but generosity. Extraordinary times required extraordinary measures. Jewish converts were being persecuted and discriminated against.**

**The Bible mandates the right of ownership. It is discovered in the Ten Commandments:**

### **Commandment #7: "THOU SHALT NOT STEAL!"**

You have a right to ownership, to your possessions and others do not have a right by force or coercion to take what is lawfully yours and give it to another without your consent.

**Western Civilization was built on the PROTESTANT work ethic.**

### ***2 Thessalonians 3:10-11 (MSG)***

<sup>10</sup> *Don't you remember the rule we had when we lived with you? "If you don't work, you don't eat."* <sup>11</sup> *And now we're getting reports that a bunch of lazy good-for-nothings are taking advantage of you.*

**Modern socialism says, "WHAT'S YOURS IS MINE."**

**Early Christians said, "WHAT'S MINE IS YOURS."**

## **TOGETHER IN ENCOURAGEMENT**

<sup>36</sup> *And Joses, who was also named Barnabas by the apostles (which is translated Son of Encouragement), a Levite of the country of Cyprus, <sup>37</sup> having land, sold it, and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.*