## ANSWER MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

Touching Lives with the Answer: Christ Jesus

February 16, 2018

Dear Friend,

On Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm you are cordially invited to a special meeting at 1060 Maitland Center Commons Boulevard Maitland, FL 32751 Suite 452. Lunch will be served and there is no obligation and nothing to join. Just bring a friend, your Bible and any questions you might have.

Allow me to share a passage of Scripture with you:

And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need. And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved. Acts 2:42-47 NIV

This is a picture of the early stages of the church right after Pentecost. There was scriptural unity, brotherly fellowship, supernatural power, and incredible growth.

Today, church has become something very different. It has become impersonal, hierarchal, corporate, powerless and, in some cases abusive. There are many who, like me wonder why the church does not resemble the New Testament church and how we can rediscover and restore that environment today.

The church was created for a purpose and my goal, with God's leading, is to help to find and engage in its original commission: To make disciples of all men. Therefore, the activities of the church include

- Proclaiming the Gospel, which means we need be clear about what that gospel actually is.
- Invite and initiate individuals into the kingdom of God and of His Christ.
- Identify and equip believers in their gifts and callings
- Ultimately, "His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms" (Ephesians 3:10 NIV)

According to the Apostle Paul, we all have a critical and important role in accomplishing this. We each are all a part of the body of Christ. God has placed various gifts, administrations and operations in each of us and as we are equipped and mature we will grow and build up the church as each part does its part. This is what the church should look like.

Once again, you are invited for lunch and a special meeting that will further explore this subject on Saturday February 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm. Click on <u>www.answerministries.org</u> for more information and registration. Please join us as we begin to make what was old new again.

Yours in the Master's service,

S. Lloyd Walters