

Vital Lessons from the Ministries in the Early Congregation
Acts 2: 42-47

“They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” (Acts 2:42, *NIV*)

- “devoted” in *Greek: proskartereo*, the idea of “persisting obstinately.”
- The word “devoted: occurs six times in Acts (cf. 1:14; 2:42; 4:4; 6:4; 8:13; 10:7)

1. They were devoted to the _____ (v. 42)

The teachings from the Old Testament Scriptures; on salvation; the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ; and the commands of Christ were so important to the life of the early church.

- Matthew 28: 19-20
- 2 Timothy 1: 13-14

2. They were devoted to _____ (v. 42, 44-45)

In spite of diversity, we can enjoy a rich and meaningful fellowship with one another.

It binds us together in love.

- John 13: 34-35

3. They were devoted to _____ (v. 42, 46-47)

True worship is expressing our awe, adoration, thanksgiving and love to Christ.

We must grow deeper in worship and in our relationship with God.

4. They were devoted to _____ (v.42)

- To seek the will and direction of the Lord through prayer.

The outcome....

“Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles.”
(Acts 2:43)

“And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.” (Acts 2:47b)

Reflection:

1. Am I devoted to God’s Word and practising it in my life and in my family?
2. Are members of the church truly having a meaningful fellowship with one another, or are we superficial towards one another? How?
3. How can we grow deeper in our worship to God?
4. What are the important needs to pray for – family, church, work and etc.?

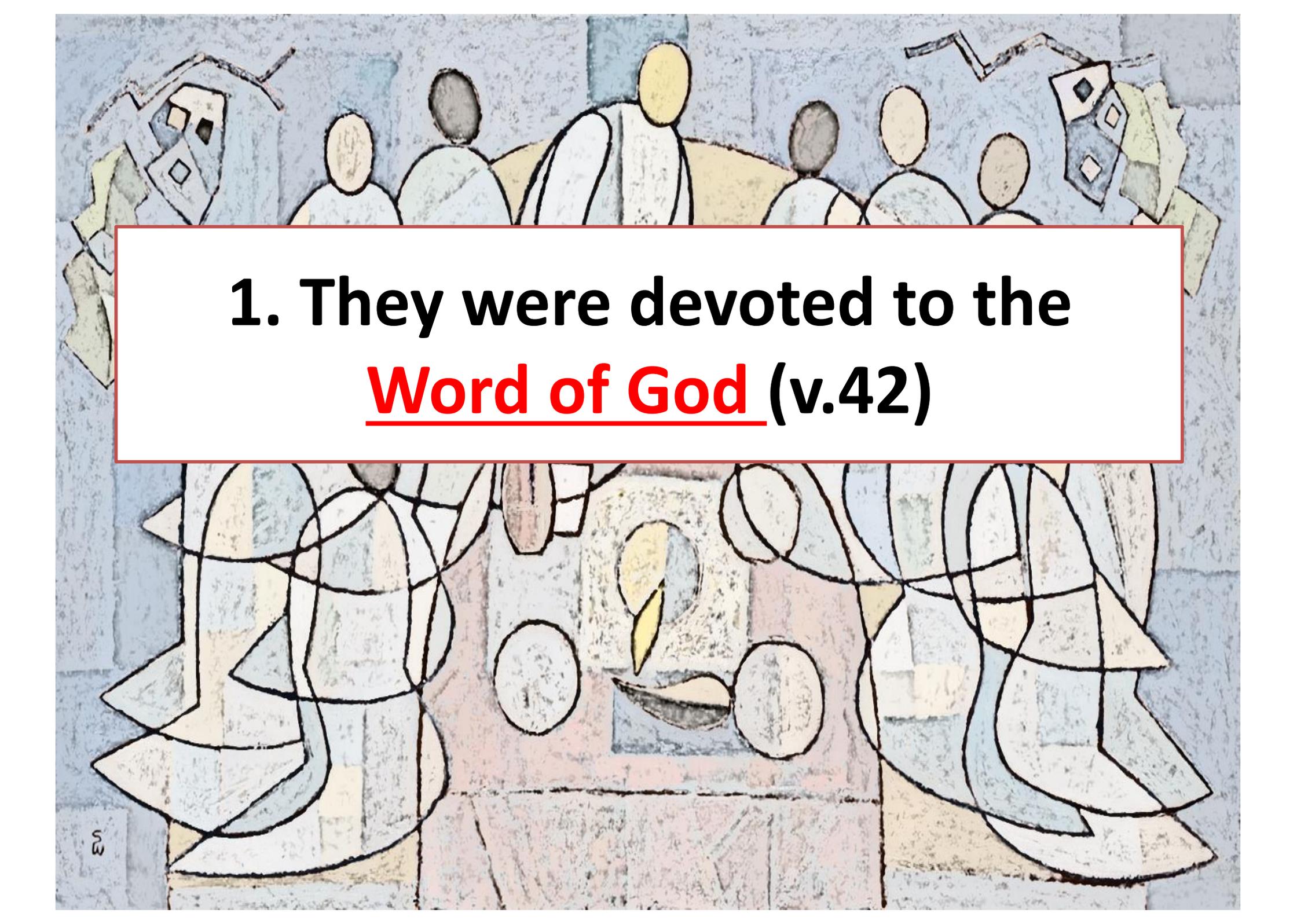
An abstract painting depicting a group of people in a congregation. The figures are rendered in simple, rounded shapes with various colors like blue, green, yellow, and brown. They are arranged in a semi-circle, facing towards the center. The background is a mix of blue and yellow tones. There are some geometric shapes and lines floating around the figures, possibly representing light or sound. The overall style is expressive and modern.

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Acts 2:42-47

I AM A CHURCH....

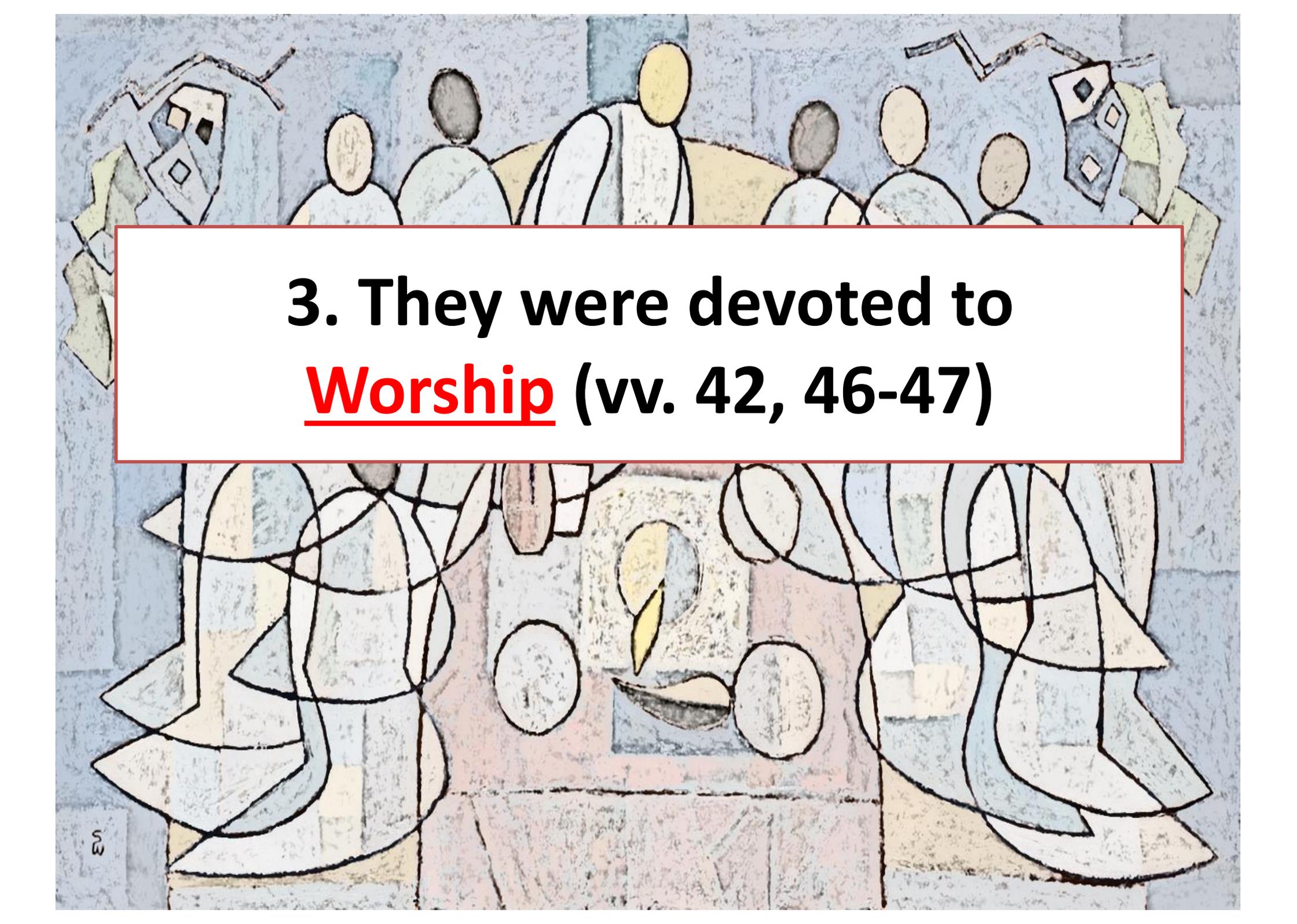
“I am learning to read the Bible, to pray and to worship. I am a teenager seeking inspiration and guidance. I am a young couple forming Christian homes. I am a senior citizen bless by wisdom from God and sharing godly experiences. In me there is love and truth, fellowship and instruction, joy and cheer, help and encouragement. In me are principles and convictions based upon the Word of God. In me, there is a challenge to get the Gospel of Jesus Christ to everybody, everywhere.... I am a CHURCH!!!”



1. They were devoted to the
Word of God (v.42)



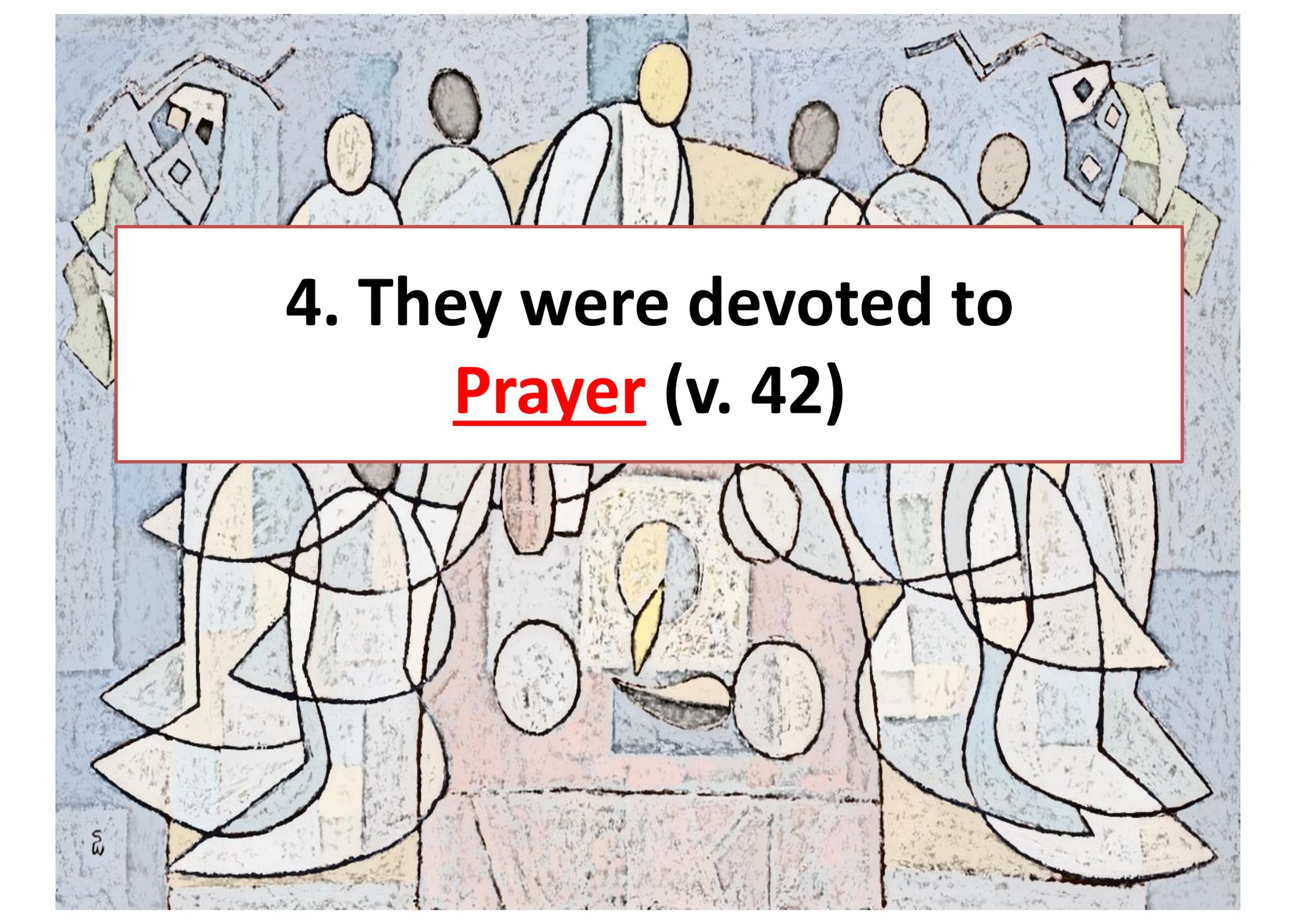
2. They were devoted to
Fellowship (vv. 42, 44-45)



**3. They were devoted to
Worship (vv. 42, 46-47)**

“To worship is to quicken the conscience by the holiness of God: to feed the mind with the truth of God, to purge the imagination by the beauty of God, to open the heart to the love of God, to devote the will to the purpose of God.”

- William Temple, *Nature, Man and God*



4. They were devoted to
Prayer (v. 42)