



## EXPERIENCING JESUS TOGETHER

### LESSON 2

*“At Our Savior’s Way Lutheran Church, we make disciples by experiencing Jesus together.”*

#### **GETTING STARTED:**

Where do you like to go and what do you like to do when you are with family or friends?

#### **DIGGING DEEPER:**

**ACTS 2:42-47** *They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.*

**Question:** Look at the passage above which describes the early church. Underline the words or phrases that describe the church’s life together. Which stand out to you and why?

**Question:** Why were these early Christians so passionate about being together?

**Question:** Have you ever felt that passionately about being with a group of people? Who were they and what were you doing?

**Question:** Have you ever felt passionately about being together in the church? Explain.

**Question:** People often say, “I do not have to go to church, I can pray just as well at home. Or I can experience God wherever I am.” What would you say to them?

**Look at the following Bible passages about Christian fellowship:**

**Matthew 18:19-20** *Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.*

**John 15:5-8** *“I am the vine; and you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.”*

**Matthew 28:20** *Jesus said, “And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*

In Holy Communion Jesus offers each of us His Real Presence, which is in, with, and under the bread and wine. In **I Corinthians 10: 15-17** it says: *“Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.”*

**Question:** What do these bible passages say about our experience of Jesus in community? Describe your experience of Jesus in Holy Communion?

**Hebrews 10:23-25** *Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another and all the more as you see the Day appearing.*

**Question:** How does the fellowship of believers enrich our lives?

**Question:** What is the danger of being separated from Christian fellowship?

### **APPLICATION:**

*Each of us has been uniquely gifted with the capacity to make a contribution to the work of Christ. We were never intended to live in isolation but to work together to become a great force for God and the advance of His cause. As Paul reminds us, the body of Christ “is not one member but many...” (I Corinthians 12:14). All of us are to use our gifts to serve one another so that together we can make a significant difference in the world. Put your giftedness to work, joyfully cooperate with the giftedness of those around you, and let the wind of the Holy Spirit use you for His glory!” - Joe Stowell “Our Daily Bread.*

*An old African proverb says, “If you want to travel fast travel alone. If you want to travel far, travel together.” **We can accomplish more together than we can alone.***

### **CHALLENGE:**

Make a commitment this week to pray for Jesus to grow His presence in your life and to bless our church with His presence. Join a small group or attend the Sunday Morning Bible study so that you might experience Jesus together with the church.