

Living the Seasons at Home

May 3 – Living in Abundance

The Easter season lasts for seventy days, until Pentecost on May 31. So during this time, we share accounts of how the presence of the risen Christ made a difference to those early followers. This week's focus is on the generosity of God and how it runs over into our lives.

Readings for this Season of Easter

Acts 2:42–47 (the focus for age-level materials)

Psalm 23

1 Peter 2:19–25

John 10:1–10



Acts 2:42-47 Contemporary English Version (CEV)

They [*those first Christians*] spent their time learning from the apostles, and they were like family to each other. They also broke bread and prayed together.

Everyone was amazed by the many miracles and wonders that the apostles worked. All the Lord's followers often met together, and they shared everything they had. They would sell their property and possessions and give the money to whoever needed it. Day after day they met together in the temple. They broke bread together in different homes and shared their food happily and freely, while praising God. Everyone liked them, and each day the Lord added to their group others who were being saved.

Something to think about, talk about, or do

- Those who followed Jesus watched and learned how to live in loving ways. The followers of Jesus got together often to worship, eat a meal together, and recall the stories and teachings of Jesus. They would share whatever they had with one another. No one ever had to go without or be lonely.

- Those who were not part of this community saw the great love between them and often became part of the community themselves.
- The community of followers was filled with the spirit of Jesus and, through them, the loving ways of Jesus went on and on.

Together this week

When we share what we have with others, the love of Jesus grows in our world. What might you share with others?

Had we not been at Alert level 3 and needing to avoid contact with those outside our bubble, we might have considered:

- giving away clothes, toys, or books that we don't use anymore or
- offering to make a meal for someone who has a difficult time cooking.



But those are a bit difficult at present!

However even when socially distancing, we can still:

- give our friendship to someone who is lonely by phoning or social media,
- share our money, or time, or good ideas,
- or... pray to be shown one other way you could share something that you have, to make a difference to someone else this week

Prayer

Take the gifts of love we offer, generous God,
to help the ministry of Jesus go on and on in our world. Amen.