

Spirit Filled Church: Unity, Great Power & Grace (Acts 4:32-37)

- Last Sunday: believers' prayers trusting God's sovereignty in persecution
- Prayer for boldness, Holy Spirit shakes meeting place & fills the believers

I. Being Filled with the Holy Spirit Produces Real Unity (4:32–35)

- a. The unity of the believers (4:32)
 - (a) The common purpose of heart and mind (4:32a)
 - (b) The common ownership of possessions (4:32b–d)
- b. The ministry of the Apostles (4:33)
 - (a) The proclamation of the Lord Jesus in Jerusalem (4:33a–c)
 - (b) The blessing of God on the believers (4:33d)
- c. Consequences of grace: common ownership of possessions (4:34–35)
 - (a) The reality of an ideal society: the fulfillment of Deut 15:4 (4:34a)
 - (b) The basis of reaching this ideal: the sale of property (4:34b)
 - (c) The means to reach this ideal: the sharing of resources (4:34c)
- d. *“Owners of lands” and “owners of houses” sold property*
 - i. *Proceeds of sale of land brought to community: shared with the needy*
 - ii. *Distribution of resources among the needy organized by the apostles*
- (d) Organization: the distribution of resources by the Apostles (4:35)

II. The Example of Joseph Barnabas (4:36–37)

- a. The biography of Barnabas (4:36)
- b. The sale of property and the provision of the proceeds (4:37)