

# Ecclesia: She Shares

## Monday

For a moment, take a look around your home. How many things do you see that someone has shared with you in the form of a gift or a memory? Often, sharing has to do with blessing others with the blessings God has given us. Read Psalm 85 today and spend some time thinking about what the Psalmist is declaring.

## Tuesday

The question has been asked before- "Do you possess your possessions or do your possessions possess you?" What is the difference between possess our possessions rather than being possessed by the possessions? Throughout Jesus' teaching, material possessions and money account for the most talked about subject of Jesus...why? Read this interchange between Jesus and a person possessed by his stuff. Read Luke 12:13-21.

## Wednesday

When you hear the word "simplicity," what does that mean? Grab a piece of paper and write out a definition of what simplicity means in your life. To live simply is to live in such a way that the stuff of our world that defines us no longer has power in us. Where in your life is God calling you to live in a more simplistic manner? And what do you do with the surplus? Read Proverbs 15:16.

## Thursday

Yesterday we began looking at our lives through the lens of simplicity. On Monday, you looked around and saw how others have shared with you. Today, let's combine the ideas...what in your home is collecting dust that others can use? That treadmill in the corner, the overflowing closet of clothes, the kitchen gadgets once useful but no longer in use, or the countless other things. Instead of looking at the value of such things, what if we look at how we can bless others with them? How could you help others with the things you already own? Today, spend some time praying for a spirit of release.

## Friday

Sharing isn't just about our stuff (material things) but also about our lives. For example, we are invited to share our lives. In numerous studies like Robert Putnam's book *Bowling Alone* (2001), social-scientists have documented how disconnected and isolated people feel today. We accumulate what Putnam calls a growing "social-capital deficit" that leaves people in our culture longing for a "more collectively caring community"—which "communal caring" is exactly the sort of social generosity that Luke describes in his historical description of the church at birth. Read Acts 2 and see how social generosity is at work.

## Saturday

Tomorrow is a glorious day in the life of our faith...it is the day of Pentecost! This is the day described in Acts 2 in which the Spirit of God is poured out on us so we are enabled, empowered and emboldened to be God's representatives in the world. Think about this- God continues to share with us, through the Spirit, the power of the resurrection and new life. God is in the business of sharing! Today, spend a few moments praying for God's Spirit to fall on you so you can be ready to be a servant of his today!