

## 12-07-25 Summary

This message challenges us to examine whether we're living according to God's standards or simply conforming to worldly patterns and church traditions. Drawing from Acts chapter 4, we're confronted with a radical picture of the early church—believers so filled with the Holy Spirit that they spoke boldly about Jesus and shared their possessions freely, not out of compulsion but from genuine spiritual prompting. The passage reveals that 'all the believers were one in heart and mind' and 'no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own.' This isn't socialism or communism; it's the Holy Spirit working through surrendered hearts. The question becomes deeply personal: Are we truly listening to God's voice, or have we already decided how we'll live our lives? The challenge extends beyond financial generosity to every area of our existence. When we recognize that everything we have comes from God—our abilities, our possessions, our very breath—it transforms how we hold onto things. The early church experienced such abundance of grace that there were no needy persons among them, not because of human organization but because the Spirit prompted those with resources to meet needs they hadn't been asked to meet. This is the church operating as one body with many parts, each responding to the Spirit's leading. The invitation is clear: Will we settle for being 'saved' and stop there, or will we continue growing, changing, and becoming more childlike in our trust and generosity?