

COMMUNITY

Using Acts 2:44-37 as a model, have the group define what the ideal community living situation would be for our culture today. Divide into small groups and attempt to cover these areas:

1. **Living quarters.** Should there be separate living quarters for each person? Family unit? Or one large facility shared by everyone?
2. **Meals.** Will everyone eat together? Separately? What about scheduling?
3. **Food.** Should it be bought? Grown? Include

meat? Vegetables only?

4. **Income.** Should the group support itself through a cooperative venture or each hold individual jobs and pool money? What about a budget? Allotments or allowances to each member?

5. **Location.** Should you locate in the city? Suburbs? Woods? Farm? Mountains? Another country?

6. **Decisions.** Will the group be governed by a leader, committee, the whole group, or elected officials?

7. **Rules.** Will there be any?

8. **Maintenance.** Who will be responsible for upkeep, repairs, "dirty work"?

9. **Children.** How will they be cared for? How many allowed? What about education?

10. **Standard of Living.** Will you "just get by"? Live in poverty? Live comfortably? Try to do as well as you can?

11. **Entrance Requirements.** Who will you let into the group? Christians only? Certain age groups? Disabled? Elderly? Teens? Wealthy?

12. **Habits.** Will smoking, drinking, or drugs be allowed? What about personal hygiene, cleanliness, etc.? People who are sloppy or irresponsible?

13. **Religion.** Will you all attend the same church? Different churches? Start your own? Attend none?

14. **Law.** What about marriage? Taxes?

15. **Possessions.** Will members be able to keep their possessions? Pool them? What about personal items like cars? Stereos? Toothpaste? Clothing?

Have the group compare their models and try to agree on one ideal community living situation. If you can't agree isolate the areas of disagreement and discuss why you were unable to compromise. Discuss your final model in light of the Scripture's model. Some questions for further discussion:

- Has anyone had any personal experience with or in a community?
- What are the advantages (if any) and disadvantages (if any) of community living?