

## **Who is Going...?** **Part 9: "To open the Way?"**

(Rend Collective Experiment Video) Elements: Community built on sharing stories and songs... Intimate/ authentic/ childlike/ transparent life unfolding... No walls/no defense/even if hurt! Church "being..." because the Cross changes everything... Breath of God brings us to life! We burn to warm/light the world! Time to hand out the "invites!" Put away self-ishness... Our places become a refuge for the lost/broken... Places where we celebrate Jesus! ***He comes walking in to do all the things He's so famous for!***

**Luke 14.12-14** "The next time you have a get together don't just invite your family, friends and neighbors, the people who will reciprocate, and you be repaid. Invite the folks who don't get invited out, those who are considered misfits for social events. You will be blessed, because they cannot repay you; and then you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

**Acts 2.42-47** And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, *in the breaking of bread*, and in prayers. Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. "So *continuing daily* with one accord in the temple, *and breaking bread from house to house*, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. *And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved...*"

### **"Shifts..."**

They became *earnest about, industrious, studious and habitual* about the apostles teaching... About the *common life* shared in the brotherhood/partnership, of Christ... From self-reliance to *the elevated source* opened by praying to the Father... A *we're-in-this-togetherness* of faith that fostered a *oneness* of heart... That resulted in *seeing others needs and moving to meet their difficulties...* (not communism). An *intentional and daily supplemented* increase in learning, worship and fellowship... AND THE DOORS OPENED!

***The Church was a revolution of salvation, affections and attention... It was a duplication of Jesus love for His Church, His Bride, His body... And an open invitation to the world He died for!***

**The people saw their love and heard their stories and songs... and they wanted in... every day!**

### **Who is To Open The Way?**

***There are people out there, all around you, waiting to be heard... (Seek to hear before being heard!)*** Lots of people carrying pain! Think they are the only ones "going thru it!" Believe that there's no one who caress/including God! Have no idea how plentiful the answers to life are!

***There are people out there, all around you, waiting to hear your stories/responses to them!*** It could start w/coffee and donuts. A hot dog barbeque. An invitation to see a video. *Not talking about starting a formal home group.* Simple sharing of life. Celebrating Jesus!

***There is Someone waiting to direct you and speak thru you!*** He knows who is out there... He knows who is perfect for the job of sharing! He wants to use the word within you... The prayers you pray... Your joy and worship... To increase His church!