



**"HOW OUR
CHURCH OUGHT
TO BE"**

(PART 3)

Acts 2:1-12, 31-47





In the last few weeks we have been giving ourselves a “CHECK-UP.”

We have begun examining ourselves, our church, our motives.

Let’s look at God’s Pattern for Growth in our church.

We have seen that the church was empowered by the Holy Spirit to be a great witness for Jesus.

She was empowered for one reason only – “GROWTH!”

There are four types of growth shown here.

Let’s look at them as we study God’s Pattern for Growth.”



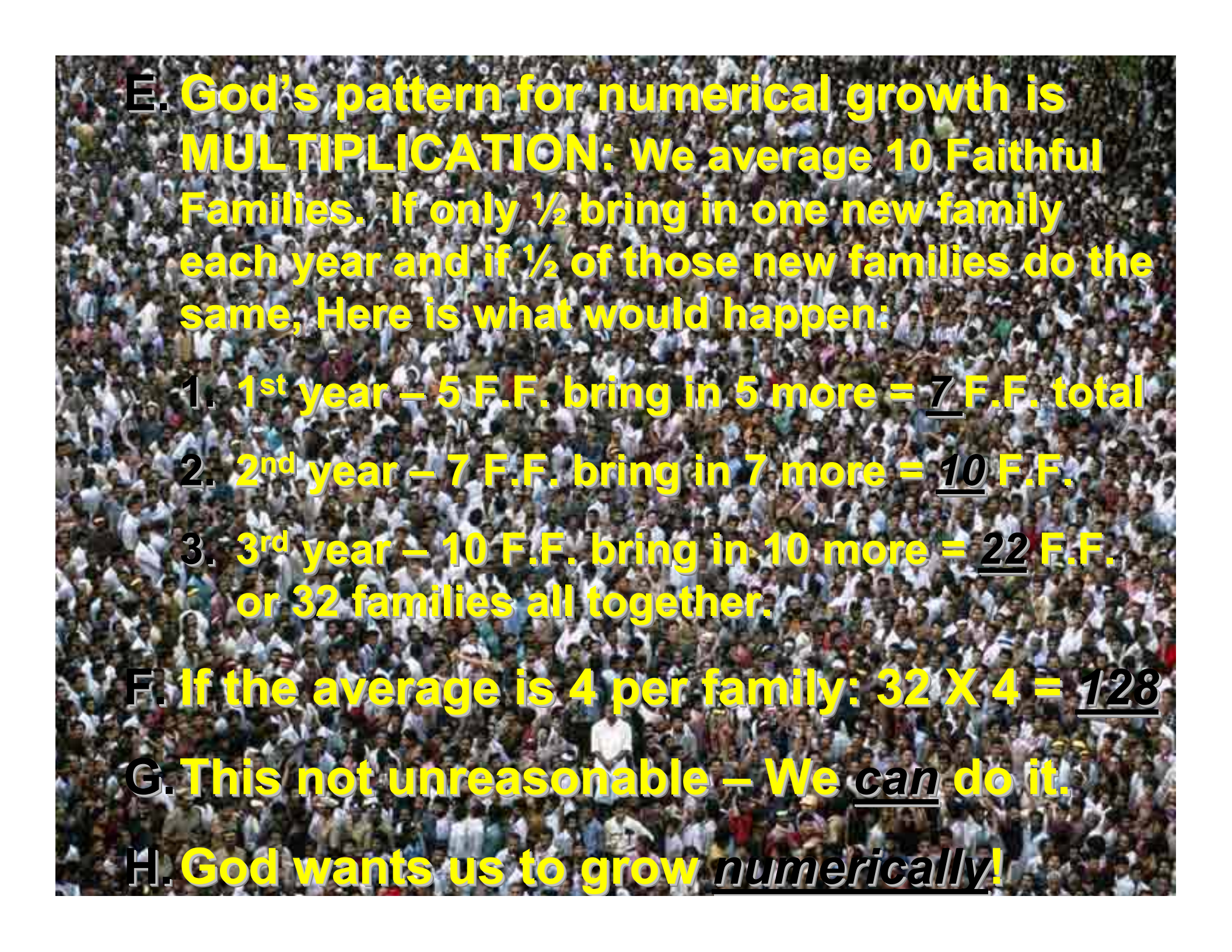
I. IN NUMBER: God wants numerical growth

A. Saved folks were added daily (*vs.41 & 47*).

B. There were over 5,000 men (*Act.4:4*).

C. There were multitudes of both men and women (*Act.5:14*).

D. Then they begin to multiply (*Act.6:1*).



E. God's pattern for numerical growth is MULTIPLICATION: We average 10 Faithful Families. If only ½ bring in one new family each year and if ½ of those new families do the same, Here is what would happen:

1. 1st year – 5 F.F. bring in 5 more = 7 F.F. total

2. 2nd year – 7 F.F. bring in 7 more = 10 F.F.

**3. 3rd year – 10 F.F. bring in 10 more = 22 F.F.
or 32 families all together.**

F. If the average is 4 per family: $32 \times 4 = \underline{128}$

G. This not unreasonable – We can do it.

H. God wants us to grow numerically!

II. IN MATURITY: God wants us to mature (*vs.42*).

A. They continued steadfastly – Growing stronger in:

1. Doctrine (teachings) – In the Word of God.
2. Fellowship – being built up by the common power of God's Holy Spirit.

B. They were Breaking Bread.

C. They were in prayer, without ceasing.

D. God wants us to grow in maturity.

III. IN INFLUENCE: They made an impact on the known world *(vs. 43)*.

A. They were accused of “turning the world upside down” *(Act. 17:5-6)*.



III. IN INFLUENCE: The early church made an impact on the known world (*vs.43*).

A. They were accused of turning the world upside down (*Act.17:5-6*).

B. We ought to effect people.

- 1. We ought to affect those around our church.**
- 2. We ought to affect those in Springtown, Weatherford, Peaster, Poolville, etc.**
- 3. We ought to affect those in the entire county.**
- 4. We ought to affect those west of Ft. Worth.**
- 5. We ought to affect those in all of Texas.**
- 6. We ought to affect them with the message of "Jesus Saves."**



C. They were “having favor with all the people *(vs.47)*).

- 1. They ought to know we are in business for God.**
- 2. They ought to know of our location.**
- 3. They ought to know when we meet.**
- 4. They ought to know we are folks who love Jesus and serve Him.**
- 5. They ought to know we practice what we preach.**
- 6. They ought to know we carry out His commission.**

IV. IN FUNCTION: (vs.43)

A. They were functioning out in the community.

B. Their unity and love for one another (vs.44).

1. They were functioning among their own members.

2. It should be the same today.

3. We should take care of the needs of one another.

4. When one hurts we ought to all hurt; one is honored we ought to all rejoice with them.

C. We are all of one body, equal in importance, with differing areas of responsibility.

