ACTS:

EMPHASIS ON NUMERICAL GROWTH OF THE CHURCH

DON'T EVER LET ANYBODY TELL YOU THAT GOD ISN'T CONCERNED ABOUT NUMERICAL GROWTH OF HIS CHURCHES. HE MENTIONS GROWTH IN 15 CHAPTERS OF ACTS.

The book of Acts.

- 2.41 "there were added unto them about 3,000 souls"
- 2.47 "the Lord added to the church daily"
- 4.4 "the number of the men was about 5,000"
- 5.14 "the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women"
- 6.1 "the number of the disciples was <u>multiplied</u>"
- 6.7 "the number of the disciples in Jerusalem multiplied greatly"
- 8.12 "they believed. . .they were baptized both men and women"
- 9.35 "all that dwelt in Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord"
- 9.42 "throughout all Joppa and many believed in the Lord"
- 10.24,44,48 "Cornelius waited for them and called together his kinsmen and near friends...baptized"
- 11.21 "a great number [of Greeks] believed and turned to the Lord"
- 11.24 "much people were added unto the Lord"
- 13.42,43 "the congregation of the Jews was broken up <u>many</u>. . .followed Paul & Barnabas. . .persuaded them to continue in the grace of God"
- 13.48 "as many as were ordained to eternal life believed"
- 13.49 "the Word of the Lord was published throughout the region"
- 14.1 "a great multitude both of the Jews and also of the Greeks believed"
- 14.21,22 "preached the Gospel to that city and had taught many...confirmed many disciples"
- 16.5 "churches established in the faith and increased in number daily"
- 16.31,33 "believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. . . [jailor] was baptized, he and all his"
- 17.4 "some of them believed...of the devout Greeks a great multitude and of the chief women not a few"
- 17.12 "many of them believed, also of the honorable women. . . and of men not a few"
- 17.34 "certain men. . .believed. . .and others with them"
- 18.8 "Crispus. . .believed on the Lord with all his house, and many of the Corinthians hearing believed"
- 19.18 "many that believed came and confessed"
- 28.23,24 "there came many to [Paul]. . .persuading them concerning Jesus. . .some believed and some believed not"

The growing church is a healthy church. May god bless those in our churches who are actively inviting unbelievers to come join a family. I have often wondered whether bringing people into the churchhouse is a spiritual gift.