

Word	Dictionary Form of Word	Meaning	Frequency	Category	Person	Tense	Voice	Mood	Case	Number	Gender	Degree
τῆ	ὁ	(often not translated) the, this, that, who	H	DA					D	S	F	
κοινωνία	κοινωνία	fellowship, partnership, Acts 2:42; 2 Cor. 6:14; 13:13; Gal. 2:9; Phil. 3:10; 1 Jn. 1:3; participation,	R	N					D	S	F	
τῆ	ὁ	(often not translated) the, this, that, who	H	DA					D	S	F	
κλάσει	κλάσις	a breaking, the act of breaking, Lk. 24:35; Acts 2:42	R	N					D	S	F	
τοῦ	ὁ	(often not translated) the, this, that, who	H	DA					G	S	M	
ἄρτου	ἄρτος	bread; a loaf or thin cake of bread, Mt. 26:26; food, Mt. 15:2; Mk. 3:20; bread, maintenance, living,	L	N					G	S	M	
καί	καί	(as a connective) and; (connecting and continuing) and then, then; (as a disjunctive) but, yet, however;	H	C								
ταῖς	ὁ	(often not translated) the, this, that, who	H	DA					D	P	F	
προσευχαῖς	προσευχή	prayer; place of prayer	L	N					D	P	F	

Greek Verse

Acts 2:42 ἦσαν δὲ προσκαρτεροῦντες τῇ διδαχῇ τῶν ἀποστόλων καὶ τῇ κοινωνίᾳ, τῇ κλάσει τοῦ ἄρτου καὶ ταῖς προσευχαῖς.

Word-for-Word Translation

They were giving attention to the teaching of the apostles and to fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in prayers.

Proper Translation

In subsequent days, they spent all of their time in learning from the apostles, in fellowshiping, in sharing meals together, and in prayer.

Comments and Questions

We have yet another use of a participle here: with a be-verb + the participle acting as a compound verb.

Sometimes a participle can act like a noun (when paired with a definite article, as in the previous verse, 41), and sometimes like a verb (as here when paired with a be-verb).

It can also act as a verb in a genitive absolute clause, as in 2:6 (When they heard this, γενομένης δὲ τῆς φωνῆς ταύτης).

*We have seen it act as an adverb, describing when the main action took place, as in 2:31, προῖδὼν ἐλάλησεν *When he was foreseeing, he said....**

προσκαρτερέω is used 10X in the NT, and is regularly followed by a dative noun.

One wonders what τῇ κοινωνίᾳ might refer to...fellowshipping, community, etc. The context provided by the next two verses unpacks what was involved in κοινωνία.

I am free in the translation of "In subsequent days." But this seems to flow naturally from the "on that day"

in vs. 41 plus ἤσαν in this verse.

Just getting 3,000 people baptized in one day would pretty well take up the whole day. Also, that notion of "breaking bread" (sharing meals) tells us that this verse is talking about time passing.

When Luke wrote this down, he had already spent years with Paul, and 1 Cor. 11: 23ff would be very familiar to him. These Acts 2:42 meals may have incorporated aspects of Jesus' last supper before his crucifixion. For the apostles, they had experienced this only a short time before, and it may have been a part of their teaching of these earliest converts. Paul does, after all, speak of this as a practice that has been long-established.

23 For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night in which he was betrayed took bread, 24 and after he had given thanks he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." 25 In the same way, he also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, every time you drink it, in remembrance of me." 26 For every time you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

However, it is not likely that these meals were limited to what we today practice in church as "The Lord's Supper". It is likely they were full meals that the people enjoyed with each other.

The context makes it clear they were sharing their goods with each other. Sharing meals together would fit with that as more-of-the-same. So they were involved in a community experience where they shared every aspect of life with each other.