

# Be Loved Faith Study

## Session 3: Beloved Community, Be Loving

### Additional Resource

#### **Illumination from *The Saint John's Bible: Life in Community***

##### **Acts 4: 32-35**

Aidan Hart with Donald Jackson

*With one or two other people (or individually), reflect on the illumination of Life in Community.*

- Read the scripture text from Acts 4 below.
- Take a moment to reflect silently on the illumination.
- What from the illumination speaks to you today? What do you notice?
- How does this image illuminate the text for you?
- What does this illumination say about who makes up the community of believers? Who is represented by those sitting at the table?
- What could be the meaning of what the figures are holding?
- This illumination is done in the style of an Eastern Orthodox icon, which is not meant to be a literal picture of a story but to reflect the theology of the passage. How does this illumination reflect the theology of this passage?

##### **Acts 4: 32-35**

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

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