

One Heart and Soul
Rise & Shine, April 11th

Scripture: **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.

Commentary from Facilitator Maggie Gough:

This week we will discuss the immigration crisis and our call as Christians to respond as one heart and one soul.

In the News:

Number of kids alone at border hits all-time high in March

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. government picked up nearly 19,000 children traveling alone across the Mexican border in March, authorities said Thursday, the largest monthly number ever recorded and a major test for President Joe Biden as he reverses many of his predecessor's hardline immigration tactics.

A complex mix of factors in the United States and Central America drove the increase. It has coincided with the Biden administration's decision to exempt unaccompanied children from pandemic-related powers to immediately expel most people from the country without giving them an opportunity to seek asylum. Children are instead released to "sponsors" in the U.S., usually parents or close relatives, while being allowed to pursue their cases in heavily backlogged immigration courts.

Continue reading *Number of kids alone at the border hits all-time high in March* by Elliott Spagat and Alexandra Jaffe in AP NEWS <https://apnews.com/article/joe-biden-coronavirus-pandemic-immigration-central-america-united-states-cfc974a2358e926438e8a8f24bd642b6>

Connecticut looking for sites to house migrant children

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — Connecticut officials are looking at places in the state to house unaccompanied migrant children who have been arriving at the U.S.-Mexico border in record numbers, including a now-shuttered juvenile detention center that drew criticism over its prison-like conditions, Gov. Ned Lamont said Thursday.

The Democratic governor said Vice President Kamala Harris asked him during a visit last month to Connecticut if the state could take some of the children from the border.

“We have thousands of kids who are lost and alone down on the Rio Grande border,” Lamont said at a news conference. “Vice President Harris approached me and said, ‘Can Connecticut help out?’ And I said we’re going to try to do what we can.”

Continue reading *Connecticut looking for sites to house migrant children* by Dave Collins in AP NEWS <https://apnews.com/article/connecticut-ned-lamont-mexico-immigration-kamala-harris-7de21237e5c05a7563d58a30eb12b480>