

EXPLORER'S BIBLE STUDY
The Acts of the Apostles
Session 4: Peter Speaks to the Crowd – The Church is Born! – Student Notes
ACTS: 2: 14-47
Heritage Church, Van Buren, Arkansas
September 30, 2009

Memory verses:

All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way;

And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. **Isaiah 53:6**

Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and you shall be saved, you and your household!

Acts 16:31

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right!" **Ephesians 6:1**

Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you! Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double minded. **James 4:8** (context: vs 7: Therefore, submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. ... vs 10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the LORD, and He will lift you up!)

Attribute of God: September 9: God is POWERFUL!
September 16: God is IN CONTROL of all things! –
SOVEREIGN
September 23: God is TRIUNE – Father, Son, and H.S.
September 30: God _____.

Aim: To Teach that Christians must share the Good News about Jesus

Ice Breaker Questions: Reintroduce self: Share a time when you witnessed about Jesus to a person or group of people, OR share a time when someone confronted you with the truth of the Gospel that led you to repent.

1. Peter Explains What is Happening (vs. 14-21)

A. Peter begins his address (vs 14-16)

Vs 14: *But Peter, stands up!!!* 1 Peter 4:10-11! Has God's words and God's strength!

Vs 14: *with the eleven:* 12 Elders – Elder leadership by team of peers, appointed/chosen by Jesus! Peter is first among equals ...

Vs. 14-16: *and raised his voice ...*

NOTICE: The Prophet and True Preachers always ground/base their message in/on the WORD of God! Especially seeing/interpreting present day life/events as fulfillment of ancient prophecy!

B. Peter Quotes Joel 2: 28-32 READ: Acts 2: 17-21 (Joel 2: 28-32)

1) What is he saying? Pentecost is a fulfillment of God's prophecy to Joel!! Who do you think taught him that?

2) Before, the H.S. was for specific people, at specific times, for specific tasks. Now, it is for all believers, at all times, for all of life – freedom and victorious living, and ESPECIALLY to fulfill our calling in ministry! (For MEN AND WOMEN!)

3) Why Prophecy, Wonders and Signs? (vs 18-19)

4) When will this happen? *Before the coming of the great (Revival) and awesome/terrible (Judgment is coming!) day of the Lord!*

5) What will happen in those days? Vs. 21 “Whoever calls ... shall be saved!” ... Universal Atonement!

APPLICATION: Heritage Core Beliefs: Wesleyan Understanding of Salvation

A. All _____ to be Saved!

B. All _____ be saved!

C. All can _____ that they are saved! (outpouring of H.S., Romans 8:16)

D. All can be saved to the _____ (All can become like Jesus – sanctification)

2. Peter Preaches Jesus! SIX Points of the Prophet:

A. The Life of Jesus Proves He is God! -- _____ Acts 2:22

B. The Death of Jesus is for our sins! -- _____ Acts 2:23

C. But God, the Father, Raised Jesus from the dead! -- _____
Acts 2; 24-30 (Proving all he claimed and taught are true!)
Acts 2: 25-38 is Psalm 16: 8-11 Read.

D. Jesus is ascended to heaven to sit on the throne as Lord! – _____
Acts 2: 30, 33-36

E. The Apostles and 120 are Witnesses to this! -- _____
(Acts 1:8, 2:32)

F. What You are seeing is evidence of the Holy Spirit! -- _____
Acts 2:33, (16-21)

3. The Effect of His Preaching! Acts 2:37-41

A. Cut to the heart by the power of the Holy Spirit and revelation of Jesus!

What shall we do?!!

APPLICATION: We all need to be confronted with the reality of our sin against a Holy God -- that OUR sins put Jesus on the cross! (Acts 2:36)

B. What is the required response to confrontation with the Glory of God!

“ _____ and Be _____ in the NAME of JESUS Christ!”

C. What is God’s Promise? Acts 2:38-39

The _____ of your sins and the _____ of the _____!

Attribute: God is FORGIVING! Romans 3:26 ... It is costly grace!!!

D. The response of the hearers: Acts 2: 40-41

E. The Biblical Pattern of Redemption:

- 1) _____: Be broken/wrecked by our understanding of the majesty, glory, holiness and grace of God!
- 2) _____
- 3) _____ (with repentance)
- 4) _____ and Charismata ... equipping
- 5) _____ -- Calling

ACTION: Christians must share the Good News of Jesus Christ!

What is your story of Good News, of Redemption? What do you need to confess and repent of so you can experience full redemption?

4. RESULTS: THE CHURCH IS BORN! Acts 2: 42-47

Pentecost: “Not to be replicated but perpetuated!” A.W. Tozer

**A. The Early Church: The Church of God’s Dreams: Living as God’s Family
Heritage Vision ... Devoted to ...**

- 1) _____ **That Transforms**
- 2) _____ **That Goes Well Below the Surface (includes prayer, communion) – the breaking of bread!**
- 3) _____ **That Prays for and Expects Miracles (vs. 43)**
- 4) _____ **and** _____ **That is Extravagant (vs 44, 45)**
- 5) _____ **That is Like Christ’s -- Self-Sacrificial (one accord) (vs. 46)**
-- love refuses to take offense and break the unity of the body!
- 6) _____ **That is Joyful and Engaging (vs. 46-47)**
- 7) _____ **that Searches for and Rescues the Lost (vs. 47)**

B. Prototype Community: Babel Community or Pentecost Community

--Mark Driscoll

Babel Community	Pentecost Community
A Small City	A Large Kingdom
Built to house a few people	Built to house many people
Marked by walls	Marked by no walls
Intentionally Resisted Diversity	Intentionally Pursued Diversity
Avoided Hospitality	Practiced Hospitality
Gathered a Homogeneous People	Gathered a Heterogeneous People
Made Their Name Great	Made Jesus’ Name Great
God Came Down	God Came Down
God Judged Their Sin	God Forgave Their Sin
God confused their languages	God unified their languages

APPLICATION: How can you help your church become more like the early Church of God’s Dreams?