

Sermon Discussion Guide:

Peter's 1st Sermon Pt. 3 (Faith and Repentance)

Sunday, February 27, 2022

Scripture: **Acts 2:37–41**

Series: **The Spirit & The Church**

OVERVIEW

In fulfillment of Jesus' promise, the Spirit had come to indwell the disciples of Jesus in a very powerful and public way. As a result, a large number of people gathered to hear. Peter used the opportunity to stand up and refute the skeptics and to explain the truth. He then persuaded the people—from Scripture—that the last days that had begun, that the Holy Spirit was being poured out on God's people, that Jesus, whom they had nailed to a cross and killed, was the risen Lord and Messiah, and that all of these things had happened according to God's determined plan. **We need to repent of our sin, receive God's Spirit, and believe in God's Son.**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When the people heard these things, they were cut to the heart. Why? What was heart-piercing about the points Peter was making? What did they fear? Could they envision a way out? What else was heart-piercing? *[Read aloud Hebrews 4:12 and John 16:8.]*
2. How have these truths affected you? Share about a significant time in your life, prior to which you had been complacent or skeptical about Jesus, but then you realized that it was your sin that nailed Jesus to the cross and killed him and that he died in your place.
3. The people who responded to Peter's message asked "What should we do?" What are some common wrong answers to this question? Have you had a conversation with someone who came to a point of desperation like this and their heart was prepared by the mercy of God to hear the truth? Pray with one another for conversations like these.
4. What is repentance? How is repentance different from conviction of sin? How is it different from worldly grief described in 2 Corinthians 7:10? According to 2 Cor 7:10, godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation. What is the role of ongoing repentance beyond the point of salvation?
5. What is the role of baptism for a believer? Peter said we are to be baptized "in the name of Jesus Christ". Why is it good to make a public declaration of allegiance to Jesus Christ through baptism?
6. Peter's response to the question "What should we do?" included the promise that they would receive the gift of the Holy Spirit himself, even for those who are far off! In what sense are Gentiles "far off"? See Ephesians 2:11-13.
7. What else pierced your heart from this sermon/passage?