

The Power of Pentecost: Responding to Peter's Message

Aim: This small group study aims to explore Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2:14-41, examining the response of the crowd and considering its relevance for us today.

Introduction:

Begin with a prayer, asking God to open our hearts and minds to His Word. Then, read Acts 2:14-41 aloud.

Discussion Questions:

1. Context and Background

- What was the significance of the day of Pentecost for the Jewish people?
- Why do you think Peter's audience initially accused the disciples of being drunk? (Acts 2:13)
- What Old Testament prophecy did Peter reference in his sermon, and why was it relevant? (Acts 2:16-21)

2. Peter's Message about Jesus

- Summarize Peter's main points about Jesus in Acts 2:22-36.
- How does Peter connect the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus with Old Testament prophecies?
- Why do you think Peter emphasized the resurrection of Jesus?

3. The Response of the Crowd

- What was the crowd's reaction to Peter's message? (Acts 2:37)
- Why do you think they were "cut to the heart"?
- What significance do you see in their question, "Brothers, what shall we do?" (Acts 2:37)

4. Peter's Call to Repentance and Baptism

- What was Peter's response to the crowd's question? (Acts 2:38)
- What does it mean to "repent" in this context, and why is it important?
- What role does baptism play in the forgiveness of sins and receiving the Holy Spirit?

5. The Response of the Crowd

- How did the people respond to Peter's message? (Acts 2:41)
- What does it mean that "those who received his word were baptized"?
- How does this passage challenge us to respond to the message of the Gospel today?

Application:

Reflect on the message of Peter's sermon and consider how it applies to your life. Discuss practical ways you can respond to the call to repentance and faith in Jesus Christ. Share any personal insights or convictions that have arisen from this study.

Prayer:

Close the session with a time of prayer, thanking God for His Word and the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ. Pray for each other, asking for the strength and courage to live out our faith and share the message of the Gospel with others.