

Be Reformed – Open the bible: study, dig and ask what the main point of the passage is

Be Charismatic – Expect the Holy Spirit: ask God to speak, minister, build up and lead us to maturity

Be Community – Love God's people: share vulnerably, apply, pray and build each other up

Be Missional – Win the world: apply lessons to outreach, make content accessible to non-Christians

Acts 2:14-18, 22-24, 32-38

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. 15 For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. 16 But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

17 "And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams;

18 even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

22 "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know—23 this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by

the hands of lawless men. 24 God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.

32 This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. 33 Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. 34 For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, "The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, 35 until I make your enemies your footstool."

36 Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

37 Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" 38 And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Study Guide 4 September 2011 – Christ and Chinatown: 4 Reminders from Acts 2



Summary

The victory Jesus achieved was a revolution of the heart and spirit. With that he showed us that the battlefield for godliness was not in the alleys, but in our own hearts.

Christians are rooted in the word of God. God speaks and reveals Himself through scripture. Scripture should be the yardstick of what is right and wrong, and how we should relate to God. Scripture is radical.

We serve a triune God – one God of three persons – Father, Son and Spirit. We cannot ignore the work of any person of the trinity and please God. The trinity of God defined their interaction with the world.

Peter showed that Jesus' disciples are defined by the cross – Jesus' work was the focal point of their lives and everything else took reference from it.

Both Christians and unbelievers are called to repentance, and we must constantly repent if we are to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Key points

We must live lives that are marked by repentance – the constant acknowledgement that God is holy and that we desire Him.

Questions

- >>What is your impression of the bible?
- >>What can you do to read the bible more?
- >>Which person of the trinity do you feel the least comfortable with?
- >>What is repentance?
- >>How do we, as Christians, live a life of repentance?

Final thoughts

Godliness is not defined by the place or time we are in, but the state of our hearts before God and how we relate to our world.

