

The Gathering of the Church

Proclamation Life Groups; Week of Sunday, January 31, 2021; Steve Thiel

The faithful preaching of the gospel focuses on Christ, includes very specific content, and demands a response. Those who repent and believe in Jesus Christ gather together as saints in order to learn God's Word, love God's people, worship God's name, and share God's message, to His eternal glory!

I. Preaching of the Gospel – Read Acts 2:22-41

- A. As you read through these verses, what components of the gospel stand out to you? What aspects of the good news does Peter particularly focus in on and why do you think that is?
- B. In verse 22, Peter highlights Jesus' life and ministry. What are some of the signs and wonders that these people would have seen? Why is it critical that Jesus is both 100% God and 100% man? What is the significance of the giving of the Holy Spirit? How is John 7:37-39 helpful?
- C. To argue for Jesus' resurrection and exaltation, Peter quotes Psalm 16 and Psalm 110. What do we learn about Peter's understanding of the Old Testament from these two quotations?
- D. As you consider the people's response to Peter's message, what stands out to you? How is their response a demonstration of repentance and faith? How is it a change in their view of Jesus?
- E. How would you evaluate and describe your clarity on the gospel when you share with others? Do you always include Jesus' life, ministry, death, resurrection and exaltation? Why or why not? How would you like to grow in your evangelism? Frequency? Clarity? Relational connection?

II. Gathering of God's Saints – Read Acts 2:42-47

- A. What stands out to you about the gathering of the early church? What is most shocking to you?
- B. In what ways did they demonstrate that they were a learning church? Would you describe yourself as a person who is devoted to the apostle's teaching? Why or why not?
- C. In what ways did they demonstrate that they were a loving church? Would you describe yourself as a generous person? How and what material possessions tend to have a hold on you? What are some things that you can do to make sure you continue to move forward in generosity?
- D. In what ways did they demonstrate that they were a worshipping church? Are you more committed to formal or informal gatherings? How are both types of gatherings helpful to a congregation?
- E. In what ways did they demonstrate that they were an evangelistic church? What things need to be true of our gathering for God to add to our number day by day those who are being saved?