



Let's Have Church

By Derek Kiser on February 7, 2022

TODAY'S READING: Acts 2

The people were gathered and Peter set out to preach, telling them what they needed to hear. Peter started with Joel and explained how the prophecies pointed to Jesus. Peter used his knowledge of God's Word, at that time the Old Testament, and explained how it all pointed to and found its end in Jesus. Do you have a good high-level view of God's Word and how it, as a big picture story, all fits in from Genesis to Revelation? That is the beauty of what Pastor Jeff is doing in his series on the historical narrative of the Bible.

The church had begun. The Holy Spirit came, and Peter preached, *"this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it"* (Acts 2:23-24). The gospel was proclaimed in a powerful way that day. What was the response from the crowd? *"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?' 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'"* (Acts 2:37-38). The crowd had been drawn by the Holy Spirit and were ready to repent and believe. What would be the results of this epic moment? Would they walk away? Would they continue on with their lives as they had before? Or would this be a defining moment of church history and in the individual lives of each person there?

"So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls" (Acts 2:41). Three thousand, yes you read that correctly, people became believers that day. And how would that change each of their lives? We read in verses 42-47 how it changed their lives, and it did change everything about them.

What is our reaction to all of this? How will we respond? Do we remember the moment we were saved and the excitement we had? Do we still devote ourselves to God's teaching and fellowship with other believers?

PRAYER: God, help me have the excitement of knowing I will spend eternity with You and knowing I have Your presence today. God, help me even find ways to fellowship with others who share in the fellowship of the gospel.

TOMORROW'S READING: Acts 3

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