

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

Acts Series

These questions are for the **September 29, 2019** sermon, "The Devoted Ones." Please read the sermon passage (Acts 2:37-47) together out loud.

Sermon Outline

AS WE CONSIDER THE POWERFUL WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, REFLECT UPON . . .

1. Our Conversion to Jesus Christ (37-41)
 - a. A "sudden stabbing" in the heart happens when these hearers realized their own guilt.
 - b. "Repent" means to "change your mind" or "change direction."
 - i. The appeal to the religious: "Stop trusting your own works. Trust Jesus only!"
 - ii. Repentance is an essential component to genuine conversion.
 - c. "Be baptized" in the name of Jesus Christ because your sins have been forgiven.
 - i. These hearers had rejected Jesus but are now called to publicly bear his name.
 - ii. Baptism is the outward sign of that which has already occurred inwardly.
2. Our Continuance in Jesus Christ (42-47)
 - a. Luke describes four key features of these early Christians, devoting themselves to . . .
 - i. The Apostle's teaching (they studied the Scriptures)
 - ii. The Fellowship (they stayed in circulation with those in Christ)
 - iii. The Breaking of Bread (they observed the Lord's Supper together)
 - iv. The Prayer (they corporately called on the name of the LORD)
 - b. The Holy Spirit produced awe, a sharing heart, joy and conversions to Jesus Christ.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: There was no way for you to come to Christ without repentance. Describe your own repentance. What old way of thinking was difficult for you to abandon? What did God have to do to bring you to a place of genuine repentance?
2. Based on #1, above: The people that Peter was speaking to had literally put Jesus to death, and now he was asking them to "be baptized" in his name. Tell about when you were baptized. What were the joys and difficulties (if any) of publicly identifying with Jesus Christ. Can you imagine the scene around Jerusalem!? 3,000 Jews publicly identifying with the one they had crucified. Have you been baptized? If not, are you willing? Contact Pastor Jon and let him know you are ready to participate in our January 2020 baptism service!
3. Based on #2, above: While it has not yet been described as a "church," these early Christians were certainly God's "called out" people. Note the four features to which they were "continually devoted." To which of these four features should you better "devote yourself"?
 - The Apostle's teaching: what have you learned in recent days in your Bible study?
 - The Fellowship: In what way do you prioritize your Christian friendships? In "fellowship" we "share things in common." How does this work out in your life?
 - The Breaking of Bread: In communion we must "put an end to divisions" (1 Cor 11:17-22). How have you been a unifier? A forgiver? A source of grace to others?
 - The Prayer: How has your soul been sustained by learning to cry out to God?