



“The Primary Message of a Church on Mission”
Acts 2: 22-24, 36-41
May 19, 2019

The Primary Message of the Church...

1. God promised to come. (Acts 2:17-20, 23a)
2. God will judge sin. (Acts 2:23b, 37)
3. God sent His Son to die and be raised. (Acts 2:23-24)
4. God has declared Jesus as Lord and Christ.

The Necessary Response to the Message

1. Accept – God’s message...God’s work for you. (Acts 2:11, 22, 40)
2. Believe – Repent...call upon the Lord. (Acts 2:21, 38a)
3. Confess – Make a private and public commitment to follow Christ. (Acts 2:38, 41)

Application:

1. Have you accepted the message, repented and confessed? What should you do next?
2. Is there someone that needs to hear this message? Pray for opportunities to share with them this week.



Life Group Questions/ Discussion

Main Thought of the Study – As the church is on mission with Jesus we need to stay focused on the primary message of the Gospel. Do we clearly know the message? Are we ready to share it?

Introduction Discussion – Imagine owning a business to sell “gadgets.” You hire employees, build a building and you open up for business. You return later and discover that the employees are loving their jobs, they have kept the place clean, and yet they have made no sales. What is your response? How similar/different is this story to Jesus and His church?

Reflections from the Message –

1. As the church begins its mission, it is fulfilling an eternal plan of God. Review some of the indicators that God had a plan for many years ahead of time. (Ephesians 1:4; Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 7:14; 9:6-7; 53:5-6) Share with one another the difference between a spontaneous activity and one that has been planned out. Discuss the value of carrying out a plan.

2. Though God had a very specific plan, He also holds people accountable for their choices. (Acts 2:23, 36) Discuss the parallel truths in Scripture - that God is Sovereign and that man is accountable for his choices. How does this work? Why are both essential? What would happen if you eliminated one of them? (Luke 22:22; Romans 2:6; 14:12; Galatians 6:7)

3. The people were convicted of their sin when they were listening to Peter. (Acts 2:37) What does it mean to be “convicted?” What brings a conviction of sin? (John 16:8; Psalm 119:104; Romans 2:15; Acts 5:11) The Gospel will always involve a conviction of sin. Read Isaiah 53:5-6 and share the conviction we experience when we realize that it was our sin that brought Jesus to the cross.

4. The Gospel is presented clearly in I Corinthians 15:3-5. How does the truth of the resurrection transform Christianity and separate it from all other religions? How sure were the disciples of the resurrection of Christ? (Acts 2:24,32) Have you ever seen something firsthand that changed your perspective? (Tourist sites – World Trade Center site? The Grand Canyon? The Oregon Coast? Etc.)

5. The Gospel is found in three words describing the person we are following (Acts 2:21; 2:36)

- Jesus = Savior - His humanity
- Christ = Sent One - His Deity
- Lord = Sovereign - His royalty

All three are essential in understanding Christianity. Which description did you understand when you first came to Christ? How did the other concepts become real to you? When did His true and complete identity become clear to you? Read Romans 10:9-10 and discuss the steps of faith necessary for salvation.

Application:

1. Sharing the Gospel with someone is one of the most exciting things that you can do as a Christ follower. Review with one another the three steps of faith. (**Accept, Believe, Confess**)
2. Role play a conversation and use the three steps to lead someone to Christ.
3. Pray for opportunities to share with someone this week.