



February 1, 2026

K.N.O.W. Series: Worship

Acts 2:36–41 (ESV) 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. 39 For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.” 40 And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation.” 41 So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

In the middle of the 1st century, in Jerusalem, Jewish people are steeped in centuries old traditions that center around the sabbath, circumcision, festivals, dietary codes, and the temple.

- In a matter of weeks, months at the most, suddenly, dramatically, and inexplicably, almost 20k people just abandon all these practices.
- It’s right to ask: What on earth is going on? What in heaven’s name would cause this?

We have the testimony of all these people, just as they gave it to others in the 1st century. In every one of their messages, we can find four ideas that come up again and again.

- 1) Jesus was **King**, sent by God.
- 2) He was **Nailed** on a cross until he died, and then was buried in a tomb.
- 3) He **Overcame** death and walked out of that same tomb alive, resurrected. And that he **Offers** the same life after death to us.

The last thing they shared was actually an invitation. It was how to accept the offer of Jesus.

- 4) **Worship**. There was always an invitation to **worship** Jesus by making him Lord and Savior.

Bible study work this week:

(Peter) **Acts 2:36**: Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both *Lord and Christ*, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

Acts 2:38: 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.

(Peter) **Acts 3:15**: and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses.

Acts 3:19: Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, **20** that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord,

(Philip > Samaritans) **Acts 8:5**: Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ.

Acts 8:12 ...when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

(Philip > Eunuch) **Acts 8:35**: Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. **36** And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” **38** And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.

(Peter > gentiles) **Acts 10:36**: As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all),

Acts 10:43 To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Acts 10:48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

Paul/Barnabas > Lystra) **Acts 14:15** “Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things

to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them.

(Paul/Silas > Philippian Jailer) **Acts 16:29** And the jailer called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas. **30** Then he brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” **31** And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” **32** And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. **33** And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their wounds; and he was baptized at once, he and all his family. **34** Then he brought them up into his house and set food before them. And he rejoiced along with his entire household that he had believed in God.

(Paul > Athens) **Acts 17:30** The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent,

(Paul > Corinth) **Acts 18:8**: Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed in the Lord, together with his entire household. And many of the Corinthians hearing Paul believed and were baptized.

(Paul > reporting on his preaching) **Acts 20:20-21**: I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, **21** testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

(Paul > his own conversion): **Acts 22:8**: And I answered, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And he said to me, ‘I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting.’ **9** Now those who were with me saw the light but did not understand the voice of the one who was speaking to me. **10** And I said, ‘What shall I do, Lord?’ And the Lord said to me, ‘Rise, and go into Damascus, and there you will be told all that is appointed for you to do.’

Acts 22:16: And he said, ‘The God of our fathers appointed you to know his will, to see the Righteous One and to hear a voice from his mouth; **15** for you will be a witness for him to everyone of what you have seen and heard. **16** And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name.’

Let’s use the very first text to help us out. It’s what we read today. What happened?

The Oh my! moment.

- In this text, people hear what Jesus did, and there’s an “Oh my” moment. Luke calls it a “cut to the heart” moment.
- If you’re ever going to know Jesus, you have to have that kind of moment. A brokenhearted moment where you say “*Look at what he did for me, I didn’t know, but now I do.*”

- A Christian is somebody who says to Jesus, *I treated you as an enemy because I never put together what you did for me.*
- For thousands of Jews in Jerusalem in 33AD, their cut to the heart moment was written down for us to read about today. When Peter spoke, they realized that this Jesus, whom they had treated as an enemy just days before, was in fact Lord and Savior.
- They realized that they had nailed God to a tree. They realized they were stuck, so their question was instinctive: “What do we do now?”

The What now? question.

- The way they ask it, is: *“Brothers, what shall we do?”*
- It’s “Please, we’ll do anything!” It’s surrender. It’s giving everything up to Jesus and everything over to Jesus.
- The answer to the what now question, every time it’s asked in scripture, is this: make Jesus Lord of your life.

The invitation is to accept Jesus as Lord and Christ.

- Lord is not a word we use a lot today. But there is a realm we do use the word and it will help us a great deal here. Has anybody ever had a landlord? **A landlord calls all the shots.**
- The first believers tell of Jesus, and they ask people: *Do you want God’s forgiveness? Great!* Then you have to let Jesus call the shots. You have to let Jesus be the Lord of your life.
- The positive side of having a **landlord is the landlord fixes the problems.**
- The first believers said this about Jesus. That he came to the earth as King, and was nailed to a cross where he died, in order to fix your problem.
- When Jesus is your Lord, the problems you could never fix on your own, get fixed.
- To make Jesus Lord is to give up all hope of ever being right with God on your own.
- That’s what happened in Acts 2. And Peter says to fully make Jesus Lord, action is required.
- What’s the action? **38** *“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.*
- Every time these early believers speak of Jesus, they give the steps required to make Jesus Lord. They were in the texts that we read earlier. Things like hearing the gospel message, having faith/belief, choosing repentance, making confession, and submitting to baptism.

But this text helps us with the essentials:

1. **They believed that Jesus was Lord and Christ.** They acknowledged that Jesus was in fact who he claimed to be: The Son of God who is the King of the universe. They believed.
2. **Peter commands them to repent.** Repent means to change your direction. It means to turn around. I was walking away from God with every step, but I repent. I turn around and now walk towards God with every step of my life.

3. **Peter commands them to be baptized.** Why? Because, he tell us, it is the *occasion* where forgiveness is given. And he tells us here that baptism is the time when the Holy Spirit moves in to our hearts.
- We'll say it this way: Worship him. Worship by faith. Worship with repentance. Worship in baptism. Worship him, and make him Lord.
 - The invitation is to KNOW Jesus. Worship him as Lord.
 - Would you be obedient, trust in Christ, confess his name, repent of your sin, and be baptized?
 - The right time to do the right thing is right now.