



Sermon Discussion Guide

02.12.23 Message | Ryan Wiemelt | Acts 2:22-41

Key Scriptures:

"Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know—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. For David says concerning him, "'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.' "Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, "'The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.'" Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified." 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. 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." And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

- Acts 2:22-41

Message Highlights:

- We serve a God who can be counted on to keep his promises, sustain his presence and restore his children, despite our broken state.
- We serve a God who actively transforms the hearts and minds of his people.
- We serve a God who generously adds to the community.



- As a church, we can respond to and live out the Word of God by understanding that we are a part of God's eternal story.

Conversation Starter:

Picture your favorite character in one of your favorite stories, whether it be from childhood, the Bible or a movie you recently watched. How do they add to the story in a way that other characters cannot? Do you consider yourself, or others in your life, to be a part of God's story?

Discuss the Message:

1. In Acts 2:22-41, how do you see Jesus' sacrifice and resurrection impacting the community that gathered for Pentecost?
 - a. Where do you notice Jesus within the communities you are a part of?
 - b. If the gospel is not prevalent in a community you belong to, how do you think God could use you to add meaning to that community? If you're not sure what this could look like, commit to asking God for wisdom in prayer this week.
2. Where do you notice restoration or life change occurring in this week's passage?
 - a. How did the truth that Jesus is the Messiah alter your worldview or self-perception as a new Christian?
 - b. Do you notice God continually restoring you in your own life, no matter how long you've known him? How so?
3. Peter's teaching of Jesus' resurrection is a reflection of the fulfillment of David's prophecy of the event in the Old Testament. Reflect on the enormity of how this one, among many instances in scripture, reflects God's faithfulness in keeping his promises.
 - a. How does God's past and present faithfulness bolster your faith and contribute to the renewing of your own mind?
 - b. Why should we be concerned with whether or not God keeps his promises?

Pray:

Father, we are humbled by the opportunities for salvation, forgiveness and restoration that you continually provide for us. Our hope is that Acts 2 may become our reality as we seek to make your name known within the communities of which we are a part. Help us to remember that apart from you, our efforts are in vain, but with you all things are possible. Thank you for the infinite love and grace that you lavish on us each day. In Jesus' name, amen.