

Message Study Guide

(Scriptures & quotes from this week's message are available on thorncreek.church/live)

Warming up

1. What is your favorite season of the year?

Digging Deeper & Application

Take your time reading the scripture given. If possible look up the verses in different versions and pause at each verse and discuss it.

2. Read Acts 2:37. At this point, the people now realized that Jesus really was who He said He was. Even though these people got to walk with Jesus, they heard of Him and some even saw Him do miracles... What was it about Peter's sermon that finally got through to them?
3. God is always moving, always working, always present in our lives... But do we always recognize His presence? When do you pay more attention to God moving in your life, when things are going well, or when you are in need?
4. Peter is one of the most relatable people in the Bible because you constantly see his flesh come through. Remember when Jesus gave Peter a warning, telling him that before the rooster crows, he would deny Jesus 3 times? He swore he wouldn't, but as we know in the story, he does. This can be found in Luke 22:31-62.
 - a. Now, Peter is the one preaching to the very same people who were yelling "Crucify Him." Peter was able to get through to them to the point where they were "Cut to the heart" (Acts 2:37).
 - b. It is incredible that the very same guy who denied Jesus 3 times is now preaching to the people about Jesus. Why do you think God continues to use Peter time and time again?
 - c. If God continues to use Peter, don't you think He will continue to use you to accomplish His work?
5. Read Acts 2:38-39. What does Peter encourage the people to do?
6. What does repentance mean? Give an example of someone who TRULY repents.

7. We are called to live a life of repentance. This requires humility and love. What is the opposite of repentance? **(PRIDE)**.
 - a. Can you be prideful AND repentant at the same time? Why/why not?
8. What do you think about the following quote? “A Christian who has stopped repenting has stopped growing” - A.W. Pink Do you agree or disagree?
9. Read Acts 2:40-47. In verse 42 we see that the church devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and to prayer. Do you think the majority of the church today is devoted to the preaching at church and to prayer? Why/why not?
10. As Christians, we should be devoted to Christ and His Church. Are you personally devoted to the Word of God and to prayer? If so, what does that look like in your life?
11. Read Acts 2:45. Do you think the church in Acts 2 is an example of how the church of today should look?
12. What are some ways we can strive to create a community among ourselves that is like the community they established in Acts 2?

Application

Below are some of the points shared in the message. Discuss how they apply to your life.

- Repentance means: “To turn from evil, and to turn to good.”
- We are called to live our lives with a repentant heart.
 - Someone with a repentant heart recognizes their need for Jesus in their life every moment of every day... For this person, they measure their life by their convictions and heart for the Lord.
 - Someone without a repentant heart thinks they are doing pretty good for themselves. For this person they measure their life based on their definition of success, but they lack conviction from the holy spirit.
- “The Christian who has stopped repenting has stopped growing.” - A.W. Pink
- “A mature Christian is devoted to the call and mission of Christ MORE than seeking whatever makes them happy.”