



COMMITTED – COMMIT TO FOLLOWING JESUS

Community Group Study Guide: Acts 2:22-41 – Week of January 22, 2023

1. Commit to Follow Jesus: Because He is the Risen Lord

The first reason that we can and should commit ourselves to following Christ is because He has been raised from the dead. Jesus was born of the virgin Mary, and was both fully God and completely human. He lived a life in a fashion similar to all of us, yet He did not sin. Despite being good and holy, He was crucified. He was crucified because He rightfully proclaimed that He was God. We can know with certainty that Jesus did die, was buried, and then on the third day arose from the grave. We have overwhelming historical evidence to support this event. In our text, we see that Jesus proved His claims to Godhood by performing miracles, fulfilling prophecy, and ultimately by defeating the power of death through His resurrection. Peter appeals to the crowd to believe and follow Jesus based upon the evidence that they had seen. Likewise, we should commit ourselves to following Jesus, because He has proven that He is the Risen Lord.

2. Commit to Follow Jesus: Because He is a Merciful Savior

In response to seeing Jesus as our Risen Lord, we must also comprehend that we are responsible for crucifying Him. When we consider this, we should be like the people in Acts 2, and we should be cut to the heart. We should see that Jesus was not being punished for His own crimes, but for our own. He died because of us, and for us. He did so, that He might be our Savior, and to save us from our punishment. We can commit to following Jesus, because He has been a Merciful Savior.

3. Commit to Follow Jesus: Christ is our Beautiful Inheritance

Psalm 16 reminds us of the faithfulness of God. He will not abandon us. He will fulfill what He promised. He is our Beautiful Inheritance.

DISCUSSION GOALS

Head

Jesus is worthy to be followed. He, being God, was born into the likeness of man, and was crucified. He arose from the dead, and has done so to redeem His people from their sins.

Heart

When we look upon all that Christ has done for us, we should be broken. We should weep because of the weight of our sin, and rejoice in the freedom given by the mercy of our Savior.

Hands

Our response to Jesus' act of sacrificing Himself, so that He might be merciful on those who were underserving, should stir up within us a passion to follow our Risen Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members Meeting
February 19 @ 1 pm

Read Acts 2:22-41

1. In John 10:10, Jesus tells us that He has come so that His sheep may have an abundant life. What qualifies as an abundant life? How would we define it? Why is a commitment to Christ required in order to live an abundant life?
2. Looking at the passage, Peter points to three pieces of evidence to convince the people of the veracity of Jesus' claims. What three points does he make? Which of these have been the most persuasive to yourself? Which has been the least persuasive?
3. In verse 36, what does Peter mean that "God has made Him both Lord and Christ?" Why are these distinctions significant?
4. When we consider the resurrection of Jesus, how have you strengthened your confidence in this factual reality? What resources or scriptures have encouraged your faith?
5. How would you respond if someone asked you the following: What has the Holy Spirit done in your life? What is the evidence of the transforming power of God in your testimony?
6. Who is responsible for the crucifixion of Jesus? Why is it important to understand where guilt lies? Why must it be personalized?
7. Pastor Shane mentioned that in order to accomplish a vision, we require both a motivation and a commitment. Thinking about your Kingdom Vision of your life, what area do you struggle in? How do we grow our motivation? In our commitment? What can be done to encourage our hearts and our minds?