

God's Story—Our Story
The Church is Born!
First Christian Church—October 15, 2023
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The power to be my witnesses...

The indwelling presence of the Living God in us, by his Spirit, is what gives us
the power to be witnesses for Jesus—so that people will believe!

Background: A strategic day—Pentecost..., a waiting, anticipating, praying small group of believers, an historical moment—the coming of the Holy Spirit, and a broken but willing servant—Peter.

GOD's Story— The Church is Born! Acts 2

1. **God's Attention Getter**—"tongues" (languages, dialects)=Galilean fisherman speaking foreign languages they had never learned. (1-13)
2. **The Witness**—Peter, obeying Jesus' command to "Feed My Sheep." (God uses broken people!)
3. **The Message**— (1) Joel's prophecy is being fulfilled before your eyes, Joel 2:28-32.
(2) God raised the crucified Jesus from the dead. (Psalm 16:8-11 & 110:1)
(3) This Jesus is both Lord and Messiah!
(4) Here's what to do: repent, be baptized for forgiveness & to receive the H.S., and save yourself from this corrupt generation!
4. **The Response**—3000 people accepted Peter's message and were baptized.
5. **The Result**—the Church was born! The small group of believers grew by 3000! (Acts 2:42-47)

What did you discover in this story? _____

BIG Idea: When we believe the Good News about Jesus, God welcomes us into his ever growing family, the Family of God—The Church—where we learn to do this new life together!

Right On!

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 2:17-22