

Jesus For All

Week 3: Sermons and Gathering of the Church

Series:

- Week 1: Living for Something Bigger (Acts 1:1-11)
- Week 2: The Arrival of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1-21)
- Week 3: Sermons and Gathering of the Church (Acts 2:22-47)
- Week 4: Persecution, Preaching, and Prayer (Acts 3-4:31)
- Week 5: Sharing and Purging (Acts 4:32-5:11)
- Week 6: Serving and Suffering (Acts 6-7)
- Week 7: The Truth and Baptism (Acts 8:26-40)
- Week 8: Encounter with God (Acts 9:1-31)
- Week 9: Good News for Gentiles (Acts 10-12)

Scripture:

Acts 2:22-47

Motivation (Why You Need to Know It):

Very few things in life are FOR ALL. Jesus is the exception – He is For All.

We learn that He is for all through something called the Gospel or good news.

1 Corinthians 15:3 (NLT) I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. **4** He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said.

How does God get this good news to all people?

1 Corinthians 1:21 (NLT) ...he has used our foolish preaching to save those who believe. **22** It is foolish to the Jews, who ask for signs from heaven. And it is foolish to the Greeks, who seek human wisdom.

Some won't accept it without more signs (they want visible proof).

Some won't accept it because of its' simplicity (there must be more to do).

The apostle Peter preached one of the first sermons about this good news.

Information (What You Need to Know):

Peter's Sermon Points –

- It was God's plan for Jesus to die
Acts 2:23 (NLT) But God knew what would happen, and his prearranged plan was carried out when Jesus was betrayed. With the help of lawless Gentiles, you nailed him to a cross and killed him.
- It was God's power that raised Jesus
Acts 2:24 (NLT) But God released him from the horrors of death and raised him back to life, for death could not keep him in its grip.
- It is God's purpose to give His followers the Holy Spirit
Acts 2:32 (NLT) God raised Jesus from the dead, and we are all witnesses of this. **33** Now he is exalted to the place of highest honor in heaven, at God's right hand. And the Father, as he had promised, gave him the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us, just as you see and hear today.
- It is God's proclamation that Jesus is Lord and Messiah (Savior)
Acts 2:36 (NLT) So let everyone in Israel know for certain that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, to be both Lord and Messiah!
Philippians 2:9 (NLT) Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names, **10** that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, **11** and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The good news demands a response.

First Responses to the Good News

Acts 2:38 (NLT) Peter replied, "Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. **41** Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all.

- Belief (repent and turn to God)
- Baptism (public declaration of faith)
- Added to the Church

Application (What You Need To Do):

Continuing Responses to the Good News

- Learning Scripture, Fellowshiping, Sharing Meals, Praying

Acts 2:42 (NLT) All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer.

- Sharing with One Another

Acts 2:44 (NLT) And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. **45** They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need.

- Worshiping Together

Acts 2:46 (NLT) They worshiped together at the Temple each day...

- Praising God and Unifying

Acts 2:46 (NLT) ...shared their meals with great joy and generosity – **47** all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.