

**Witnesses – Acts 1 & 2**  
**Teaching 03 // The Proclaimed Gospel**

**The Spirit Empowers...**

- Peter to proclaim the gospel (Acts 2:14-41)
- A community that practices life together (Acts 2:42-47)

Acts 2:12-36 (CSB).

**The Message:**

1. God-centered
2. OT Fulfillment
3. Story and Identity of Jesus
4. Sending of the Spirit
5. Necessary Response

Jesus is the saving King who has sent the Spirit.

Acts 2:37-41 (CSB).

**The Response:**

1. Repent
2. Be baptized.

Repentance can be summarized in the phrase: *return to me*.

“Tertullian (160–225 CE)...identified the act of baptism as the Christian *sacramentum* and contrasted it to a Roman soldier’s pledge of loyalty to the emperor and Empire. By analogy, he makes the case that just as a soldier, upon his oath of allegiance, was inducted into Caesar’s army, so a believer was initiated by the sacrament (oath) of baptism into God’s kingdom. Each vowed faithful service to his god and kingdom.” - R. Alan Streett, *Caesar and the Sacrament*, pg. 4

Baptism is a ritual, a *sacrament* that demonstrates allegiance to King Jesus.

Your relationship to God can now be restored, and that relationship looks like allegiance to King Jesus.

**The Promise:**

- You will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

When we receive the story of Jesus, we receive the presence of God.

**In order to be witnesses to Jesus, we need to tell and retell the story.**

“Churches that dispense with the telling of the story, perhaps in the interest of sensitivity to ‘seekers,’ will eventually have nothing identifiably Christian to say, either to themselves or to those seekers. But since everyone, and every community, needs a master story, a new one will fill the void, and the new master story will carry with it a new, and most likely alien, way of being in the world.” - Michael Gorman, *Becoming the Gospel*, pg. 130

**Practice for this Week:**

- Scriptural Engagement.
- Read Matthew’s Gospel Account
- 5 Day Reading Plan
  - Day 1: Matthew 1-4
  - Day 2: Matthew 5-11
  - Day 3: Matthew 12-16
  - Day 4: Matthew 17-22
  - Day 5: Matthew 23-28