

Southside Baptist Church
Sunday Morning – 7-13-25
Christianity 103 – Message 2 Part 5
Peter speaks to the people.

1. Introduction:

a. Grace Giving Emphasis:

- 1) Grace Giving Principles.

b. Taking a look back:

- 1) In the last two messages we placed an emphasis on the truth of repentance and baptism.
- 2) Verse 38 – those who repented and believed will then be filled with the Holy Spirit.
- 3) Verse 39 – the promise of the Holy Spirit was to –
- 4) Verse 40 – Peter invites them to turn to Jesus.

c. Taking a look ahead:

- 1) Is there a gap between what you know as a Christian and what you do?
 - a) Consider what you have learned and put that in perspective to how you live. Why?
 - b) The wider the gap between what I know and what I do reveals a need in my life to narrow the gap between what is true in my life and what is a lie.
 - c) A goal of spiritual growth – narrow the gap.
- 2) The Book of Acts reveals the growth in the Apostles lives.
- 3) You cannot deny in any way that these men have been changed by the truth of Jesus Christ.
- 4) Quick recap of what we know and have seen.
- 5) The Church isn't just a place to go; it is what we are to be.
- 6) What does it mean to "BE" the church?

2. A step of obedience to what God had done. Acts 2:41

a. 3,000 more believers that day.

- 1) "gladly received his word" – "gladly" – received truth to approve, to believe.
- 2) Free will – the choice to do otherwise.
- 3) Here we see the birth of the New Testament Church.
- 4) The Apostles had to be thinking about next steps.

3. What do we do now?

a. Being led by the Spirit. Acts 2:42-47

- 1) The church is moving; the Body is learning; it is growing and starting to function.
 - a) You must pass on what you have been given.
- 2) Have you passed on the things you have heard and learned?
 - a) That is being the Church!
- 3) Application – One method of passing the truth on is called Discipleship.
 - a) This is being the Church!

b. "Continued stedfastly in the apostle's doctrine." Verse 42

- 1) What do you think this meant they were doing?
- 2) Purpose – Make disciples.
 - a) The birth of the church makes it clear that the purpose of the church isn't just to get converts but to make disciples.
 - b) "continued stedfastly" – to persevere in an activity or cause to the point of devotion.
- 3) Application – what are you currently continuing "stedfastly" in?
- 4) If making disciples isn't on your list, then we have a problem. When it comes to being the church in this area, too many are just going to church.
- 5) Seems like these new converts changed their schedules and lives to learn.

- 6) Application –
 - c. “fellowship” - Verse 42
 - 1) A practice that many Christians enjoy.
 - 2) In the context of the church, it extends to not only being together but also having things “in common.”
 - a) Believers using things God has given them for the benefit of others.
 - 3) How do you feel about fellowship now?
 - 4) It comes back to the question of ownership.
 - 5) A good question here – who do you belong to?
 - 6) Fellowship – the Greek word is “koinonia”.
 - a) Partnership to the point of Participation.
 - b) Relationship to the point of Caring (Action).
 - c) Communication to the point of Knowing.
- 4. Today’s Take Away:
 - a. Take a step – narrow the gap.
 - b. Take a step – from just attending to being the Church.
 - c. Take a step – discipleship. Learn and then pass it on.
 - d. Take a step – seek to live out biblical fellowship.