

**The Commitments of  
Jesus' Messengers and the  
Truth of His Claims  
Result in Changed Hearts**

Acts 2:32-47

Pastor Kelly J. Mahoney

- I) The **prior** commitments of Jesus' representatives prepared them to be **effective** witnesses (Acts 1:4-8, 12-14):
- a. Thru **togetherness** in sharing life (v.1:4-6; 2:1).
  - b. By the **power** of the Holy Spirit (v.1:4-5, 8; 2:2-4).
  - c. With **unity** in purpose (v. 1:14).
  - d. Thru reliance on God in **prayer** (v.1:14).

## Acts 2:1-4

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

## Who did the witnesses speak to? Acts 2:9-11

9 "Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya around Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, . . . 11 Cretans and Arabs-- we hear them in our own tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God."



II) The truth proclaimed by Jesus' Holy Spirit empowered witnesses **convicted** hearts (v.32-37).

**Acts 2:32-27**

32 "This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses. . . .

37 ¶ Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart,

**What is the truth that changes hearts?**

- II) The truth proclaimed by Jesus' Holy Spirit empowered witnesses **convicted** hearts (v.32-37).
  - a. The truth regarding **Scripture** is that:
    - i. The Holy Spirit **spoke** using human authors.

**Acts 1:16** (see also Ps. 69:25, 109:8)

16 "Brethren, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the **Holy Spirit foretold by the mouth of David** concerning Judas, . . .

**2 Peter 1:20-21**

20 But know this first of all, that no prophecy of **Scripture** is a matter of one's own interpretation, 21 for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but **men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.**

- II) The truth proclaimed by Jesus' Holy Spirit empowered witnesses convicted hearts (v.32-37).
- a. The truth regarding Scripture is that:
    - i. The Holy Spirit spoke using human authors.

## 2 Peter 3:15-16

... our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, 16 as also in all his letters, ... which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures ...

## 2 Timothy 3:16

16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;

- a. The truth regarding Scripture is that:
  - i. The Holy Spirit spoke using human authors.
  - ii. Jesus fulfilled what they foretold.

## 1 Corinthians 15:3-8

3 ¶ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, 5 and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 6 After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep; 7 then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles; 8 and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.

- b. The truth regarding the Apostles is that they were:
  - i. Chosen (Acts 1:2) by Jesus to be with Him.
  - ii. Eye witnesses of his life, death, burial and resurrection.

## 1 John 1:2-3

What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life-- 2 and the life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us-- 3 what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.

- b. The truth regarding the Apostles is that they were:
- i. Chosen (Acts 1:2) by Jesus to be with Him.
  - ii. Eye witnesses of his life, death, burial and resurrection (1 John 1:2-3).
  - iii. Instructed by Jesus regarding his fulfillment of what the Old Testament foretold.

## Luke 24:25-27

<sup>25</sup> And He said to them, "O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> "Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?" <sup>27</sup> Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.

- b. The truth regarding the Apostles is that they were:
- iv. Promised the Holy Spirit's guidance to teach them and remind them of Jesus' teachings.

### John 16:13-14

13 "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. 14 "He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you.

### John 14:26

26 "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.

- b. The truth regarding the Apostles is that they were:
- i. Chosen by Jesus to be with Him.
  - ii. Eye witnesses of his life, death, burial and resurrection.
  - iii. Instructed by Jesus regarding his fulfillment of what the Old Testament foretold.
  - iv. Promised the Holy Spirit's guidance to teach them and remind them of Jesus' teachings.

Guided by Jesus, Peter shares how the OT Scriptures foretold Jesus and today's events:

- Psalm 69:25; 109:8; Joel 28:28-32
- Psalm 16:8-11; 132:11; 89:3; 110:1

II) The truth proclaimed by Jesus' Holy Spirit empowered witnesses convicted hearts (v.32-37).

c. The truth regarding Jesus is that He was:

- i. Attested by miracles, signs & wonders that were seen by audience members (v.2:22).
- ii. Crucified by the hands of men, died, was buried and rose again by God's plan and power (v.2:23-24).

c. The truth regarding Jesus is that He was:

iii. Seated at God's right hand of power.

## Acts 2:32-35

32 "This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses. 33 "Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear. 34 "For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says: 'THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, 35 UNTIL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR YOUR FEET.'"

- c. The truth regarding **Jesus** is that He was:
- i. **Attested** by miracles, signs & wonders that were seen by audience members.
  - ii. **Crucified** by the hands of men, died, was buried and rose again by God's plan and power.
  - iii. **Seated** at God's right hand of power.
  - iv. The Lord and Christ.

## Acts 2:36-37

36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel **know for certain** that God has made Him both Lord and Christ-- this Jesus whom you crucified." 37 ¶ Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart,

III) The truth of Jesus calls for three responses:  
faith, repentance, and baptism.

**Acts 2:37-41**

37 ¶ Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?" 38 Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." 39 "For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself." 40 And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation!"

III) The truth of Jesus calls for three responses:  
faith, repentance, and baptism.

### Acts 20:20-21

... I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you publicly and from house to house, 21 solemnly testifying to both Jews and Greeks of repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

### Acts 2:41

So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.

IV) Four commitments provide an ongoing atmosphere for hearts to change:

- a. The Apostle's teaching.
- b. Fellowship.
- c. Breaking bread.
- d. Prayer.

### Acts 2:42

42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

IV) Four commitments provide an ongoing atmosphere for hearts to change:

a. The Apostle's teaching.

### A solid basis for truth!

- i. Chosen (Acts 1:2) by Jesus to be with Him.
- ii. Eye witnesses of his life, death, burial and resurrection (1 John 1:2-3).
- iii. Instructed by Jesus regarding his fulfillment of what the Old Testament foretold (Luke 24:25-27).
- iv. Promised the Holy Spirit's guidance to teach them and remind them of Jesus' teachings (Jn. 16:12-15; 14:26).

IV) Four commitments provide an ongoing atmosphere for hearts to change:

b. Fellowship.

**Acts 2:43-46**

43 Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. 44 And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; 45 and they began selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. 46 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple,

IV) Four commitments provide an ongoing atmosphere for hearts to change:

c. Breaking bread.

d. Prayer.

**Acts 2:46b-47**

... and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

IV) Four commitments provide an ongoing atmosphere for hearts to change:

a. The Apostle's teaching.

-- relying on the word of God

b. Fellowship.

-- relying on the people of God

c. Breaking bread.

-- relationships with the people of God

-- remembering Jesus sacrifice

d. Prayer.

-- relying on the power of God

## Application: **Fall Community Meals**



### **Learn Togetherness from Acts:**

*"Taking salt together (from Greek of Acts 1:4); Breaking bread together . . . from house to house . . . taking meals together (v.2:42, 46); From house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ (v.5:42); . . . teaching you publically and from house to house (v.20:20)."*

**Would the Lord have you  
commit to hosting one of these?**

### **Your commitment would include:**

- Hosting / coordinating 3 weeks of potluck **meals**.
- Inviting people to join you and /or receiving people who will sign-up later.
- **Fellowship** over 2-3 "life" questions.
- **Prayer** together for all who gather.

*Starting the **week of Sept. 18th**—time & day set by you.*

**Please contact Pastor Kelly** (see back of bulletin for contact info).

# Applying God's Word to Life

- 1) Do you have confidence that the truth regarding Jesus has made the journey from your head to your heart?
- 2) Are you willing to diligently seek the truth in order to solidify your faith's foundation?
- 3) Would the Lord have you commit to either hosting or participating in the Fall Community Meals?

