

“Acts: Learning to Be the Church”

Week #4: “The Birth of the Church”

Faith Bible Church

February 13, 2011

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Acts 2:37-47 (*New American Standard*)

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 And Peter *said* to them, "Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall 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 shall call to Himself." ⁴⁰ And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation!" ⁴¹ So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and there were added that day about three thousand souls. ⁴² And they were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

⁴³ And 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 And day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, 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.

LIFE TRUTHS FROM TODAY'S SCRIPTURE:

- I.** Every life-changing encounter with Jesus begins with a _____ of _____ and is followed by a three-step process:
- A.** an _____-_____ regarding _____
 - B.** personal _____ with _____
 - C.** _____ of the _____
- II.** God's promise is available to _____ and offered at His _____.
- III.** This _____ change manifests itself in an _____ response of _____:
- A.** an ongoing _____
 - 1.** to the "didache"
 - 2.** to fellowship
 - 3.** to "breaking of bread"
 - 4.** to prayer
 - B.** a continuing _____
 - 1.** a sense of awe
 - 2.** visible reminders of the presence and power of God
 - 3.** sharing to meet the needs of all
 - 4.** single-mindedness when together and apart
 - 5.** sharing meals
 - 6.** praising God
 - 7.** having favor with all
 - 8.** the building up of the Body by God