

1. Carefully read Acts 2:14 through 36, possibly through several translations and write a synopsis of Peter's testimony in your own words.
 2. Peter's sermon (Acts 2:14-36) gives both an explanation and a challenge (Acts 2:38). What are those?
 3. Peter cites words of the prophet Joel (Acts 2:17-21) and David (Acts 2:25-28, 34-36) to communicate Jesus as Messiah (Acts 2:36) essentially declaring to his fellow Jews "This is what we have been waiting for!"- something his Jewish audience would have understood.
 - a. Is there something you have been waiting for in your walk with God?
- Doug pointed out that "we see both the "*strategic and flexible* plan of God" (Acts 2:23)... God takes human choice, flows with these choices and still makes it part of His plan.
- a. What do you think he meant by this in context of this verse?

- b. Can you think of an example from your own life when it has been difficult to reconcile God's strategic plan with His flexibility when the outcome was different than you would have hoped?
5. Peter was asking his hearers to do a 180 about what they perceived Messiah would be, to reorient themselves about Jesus, that He is the fulfillment of what they hoped and expected, it just didn't happen the way they thought.
 - a. Is there a time in your life when you expected or thought God was going to do something and it didn't happen as you expected? How did that play out? How did it resolve?

For Group Discussion

LOOK at what the Spirit of God did:

This isn't Peter making something happen or a strategy Peter came up with. This is simply Peter knowing the Word and being available to God. End result: The Spirit of God pierced hearts and 3000 believers were added that day.

*If you **HAVE BELIEVED** in Jesus as Messiah and King, he **HAS** deluged you with His same Spirit.*

You need not ask for what you already have.

Do not get so lost in your daily life that you forget the faithfulness of God:

*Faith is not asking God to give us more faith, **BUT** to remember that **HE IS** and already has been faithful - **LOOK** at the epic faithfulness of God.*

Personal application

- *Is there something you are currently dealing with where God is taking human choice, an issue, or situation, making it part of His plan and you are not sure how it will work out?*
- *Has there been a crucial moment in your life when you've asked God "How will You redeem this?"*