



Sermon-Based Discussion Guide

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Gospel: The Response

April 24, 2011

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SCRIPTURE

Acts 2:36-38

³⁶ “Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.”

³⁷ When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

³⁸ Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

ENGAGE

Why do you think it is that most people think they are going to heaven? (Most people believe that salvation is based on works and that the standard is somewhere below them. We all think we're relatively good.)

DISCUSS

1. How perfect is God's standard? Read Matthew 5:48 to see how it answers that question.
2. Read the focal passage above. Does this verse imply that we are also guilty of crucifying Jesus? How is that true?
3. Verse 37 says that the people were “cut to the heart” or convicted. Has there ever been a time that you have been cut to the heart about your life or about what God has done for you? Can anyone share about that time?
4. Verse 38 talks about the importance of repentance. Is it a necessary component for salvation? Because believers still sin, how do we know when there has been adequate repentance for salvation?
5. Verse 38 also talks about baptism. Baptism is full of symbolism. What does it represent? (the death, burial and resurrection of Christ; death to our old self and new life in Christ)
6. Why do you think so many people have difficulty accepting the truth of the gospel and following Christ as Savior and Lord? How can we be a help to them? (live it, talk to people about Christ, learn how to share the gospel)

YOUR NEXT STEP

If you have never given your life to Christ, accepting the gift of God which is Christ's death for your sin, maybe that is your next step.

If you have made that step, make a commitment to help others make that step?

CHILDREN'S TIME

1. What does the Easter bunny have to do with Easter? If nothing, then what is Easter all about?
2. What makes Easter so very important to us as Christians?
3. Share your testimony (the leader) and include the gospel.
4. It would be very cool to accept Christ as your Lord and Savior on this holiday. What keeps people from doing that once they've heard the gospel?

OTHER PASSAGES

Rom. 3:23 all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Rom. 6:4 baptized into Christ