



## DISCUSSION GUIDE

### WEEK 5

#### SERIES OVERVIEW

The book of Acts tells the story of the gospel advancing from Jerusalem to the ends of the earth. As we walk through this missional narrative together, our prayer is that God would breathe fresh wind into our sails—motivating and inspiring us to join Him in the work He's still doing today.

#### [Book of Acts Video Overview](#)

#### CONTEXT

In Acts 2:22-41, Peter addresses the crowd, declaring Jesus as the Messiah, attested by God through miracles, and resurrected from the dead. His powerful message leads to the conviction and baptism of about three thousand people, marking the birth of the early church.

#### THE BIG IDEA

The Gospel always demands a response. Those who respond in faith are forgiven by God and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

#### SCRIPTURE: Acts 2:22-41

22 "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— 23 this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan & foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. 24 God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. 25 For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; 26 therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. 27 For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let

**Scripture continued:** your Holy One see corruption. 28 You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.' 29 "Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30 Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, 31 he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. 32 This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. 33 Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. 34 For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, 35 until I make your enemies your footstool." 36 Let all the house of Israel therefore 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 cut to the heart and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, 'Brothers, what shall we do?' 38 And Peter said to them, '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. 39 For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.' 40 And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this crooked generation.' 41 So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.



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### GROUP DISCUSSION

(Refer to Week 5 of your ACTS Journal.)

What is one thing that stood out to you from the sermon and why do you think God wants you to remember this truth?

Read verses 22-28. In his sermon, Peter creates a tension in the death of Jesus between God's sovereignty (He's fully in control and planned Jesus' death) and human responsibility (we're fully responsible for what we do). Discuss the struggle in this tension and share where your faith and beliefs land.

Why did Peter linger on the resurrection more than Jesus' life and death?

Read Psalm 16:8-11. Why did Peter quote these verses in Acts 2: 25-28?

Read verses 29-36. How did these verses and their reference to the Davidic Covenant help the audience connect with the Gospel that Peter was proclaiming?

Read verses 37-41. What do you think Peter meant when he said, "they were cut to the heart"?

What was Peter's response to their question, "what shall we do" in vs. 37? How has the Church in the US answered this question and how is it different from Peter's answer?

The Gospel of who Jesus is and what he came to do demands a response from all who hear it. Share your response to hearing the Gospel for the first time in your life and how did you respond this weekend after the sermon?

What is baptism and why should all Christians be baptized? (See sermon notes)

### PRAYER (In gender based groups)

\*Share praises, answered prayers, and prayer requests.

\*Celebrate baptisms from the weekend and thank God for what he did in your heart.

\*Share what God did in you during 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting and any answered prayers.

\*Pray for our Cass White Location.

### Closing Prayer (together as a group)

Father God, we are grateful for your gift of your Son Jesus. May we respond to the Gospel in repentance, obedience and a grateful heart. May our response to you always be to honor and glorify you with our lives. It is in the powerful and grace-filled name of Jesus that we pray, Amen.

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