

Small Group Questions

Week of Sunday, November 5th, 2023

Point 1: The Plan of Redemption

Observe:

1) Read Acts 2:22-32 and Psalm 16:8-11. Why does Peter quote this Psalm? What points is he trying to get across?

Discuss:

2) According to verse 23, what two parties are responsible for the death of Jesus? Why do you think Peter makes a point to highlight both and not just one?

3) What do you think it was like for the Jewish listeners to hear this David Psalm interpreted in a way they had never heard? How would you have felt in their shoes?

4) Consider the role of faith and evidence in these verses (v.22, 24, 32). What might they teach us about the relationship between faith and reason in the Christian faith?

Point 2: The Present Reality

Observe:

5) Read Acts 2:33-36 and Psalm 110:1. What point about Jesus does Peter make by quoting David again here?

Discuss:

6) How might this passage impact your understanding of the Holy Trinity – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit – and their roles in the life of a believer?

7) Why does Peter call Jesus BOTH Lord and Christ (or messiah) in verse 36? What do these two terms say separately about his identity? How do they complement each other? Why is this news specifically aimed at the house of Israel?

Respond

8) What does it look like in your own life for Jesus to be Lord and Christ? What area might you simply be acknowledging that he is the Christ, but not actually surrendering to him as Lord?

Point 3: The People's Response

Observe:

9) Read Acts 2:37-42. What are the “four ingredients of conversion” that Zak highlighted in this text? From what does Peter tell the people to save themselves?

Discuss:

10) The people respond in verse 37 with “what shall we do?” What does this say about their hearts? Is this mentality one that you’ve encountered with others in your life? Why or why not?

11) Peter calls everyone to repent and be baptized. Read Proverbs 28:13 and 2 Peter 3:9. Why is repentance so important? What do you think the role of repentance is in ongoing faith walk of a Christian?

Respond

12) Reflect on the role of the Holy Spirit in the early church as described in Acts 2. In what ways can you seek the guidance and empowerment of the Holy Spirit in your own life and ministry?

13) What are other thoughts or comments have gone unshared?