

Name: _____

FUNDOCY Homework: Peter and the Early Church

Lesson Taught on October 22, 2017

Homework due: November 5, 2017

On Pentecost day, Simon Peter was gripped by the Holy Spirit's power. He preached a convincing sermon to Jews who were gathered in Jerusalem from all over the world. That day 3000 people were baptized and the church was born. After that, the Christian church grew through the loving acts and bold witness of Jesus' followers. And now, over 2000 years later, you and I are a part of this church!

Part I: The Lesson

1. Last time, we studied the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Now that the crowds have received the power of the Holy Spirit, they must decide how to react. Read Acts 2:37-40. What does Peter tell them to do?

2. Read Acts 2:41-42.

- a) How many people were added to the church that day? _____
- b) What did they devote themselves to? (2:42) _____

- What do you think it means to devote oneself "to the breaking of bread"? _____

3. Read Acts 2:43-47. List four things believers in the early church did:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

4. What did God do? (Acts 2:47)

5. Not everyone was happy that the church was growing. Peter and John, two leaders in the church, were called before the council (like the government) and questioned about what they were doing. Read Acts 4:18...what are Peter and John commanded to stop doing?
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6. Read Acts 4:19-20. How do Peter and John respond?
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7. Read Acts 4:32-35, which further describes how the believers chose to live. Was the early church a selfish church, or one that shared with others? _____
8. The first church of Jesus in Jerusalem:
- a) Met in homes,
 - b) Devoted themselves to the Apostles' teaching, fellowship, the breaking of bread, and prayers,
 - c) Sold their possessions and shared everything,
 - d) All of the above, and day by day the church grew
9. When the religious authorities ordered Peter and John to be silent about the healing of the lame man, they said:
- a) "Be silent yourselves!"
 - b) "Okay. We don't want to make trouble!"
 - c) "Okay. But you are going to have to pay us off!"
 - d) "We cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard!"
10. In Acts 2:39, Peter said, "God's promise is for you...":
- a) "...for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him,"
 - b) "...for your children, and for all who are far away,"
 - c) "...for your children, and for all who are near in Jerusalem,"
 - d) "...and for you alone"

Part II: Reflection Questions

1. What do you think would happen if everyone in our church (or in our community!) acted the same way as the early church acted?

2. Which of the things the early church did (studied Jesus' teachings, devoted themselves to prayer, enjoyed food and fellowship with one another, worshipped, shared everything), do you most enjoy? _____

Which do you least enjoy? _____

Which do you feel you should do more of? _____

3. Do you think the Holy Spirit is as active in the church today as it was in the early church?

Why or why not?

Now stop, fill in the blanks and pray...

Dear God, I give you thanks for the gift of this day. The Spirit has been moving and calling the church for thousands of years. Thank you for inviting me to be a part of it. Today, I pray for my church. (List some things that you are thankful about our church or things that you hope the Spirit will move to change in some way.) _____

Hear all my prayers spoken or silent. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.