

## Brothers, what shall we do?

On the day of Pentecost Peter and the other eleven Apostles were gathered along with countless other disciples when Peter spoke to thousands of Jews who were in Jerusalem. This must have been quite a site. Peter standing there, possibly on a set of steps or on a small hill speaking loudly to the all those gathered. Remember, they came from all over the world and they spoke many different languages. But Peter spoke and they all understood him. The power of the Holy Spirit was a great translator.

Once Peter had told those in attendance the story of how Jesus was a man accredited (sent by God and approved by God) to do miracles, wonders and signs. He told them that Jesus was crucified. Peter actually said to them that they were guilty of Jesus' death because he was handed over to the Jews with the help of wicked men. Further Peter told them things King David had said about the coming Messiah. Peter told them that David died and was buried, but Jesus rose again and was sitting at the right hand of God the Father. He told them things some of them had seen and or heard to be true. Yes, many had seen Jesus after His resurrection (raising from the dead).

I love this line in Acts 2: 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?"*

Peter was sooooo ready. He said, "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."

Three thousand were added that day. Wow! That is a lot of baptizing. I will bet it took hours for the twelve Apostles and the disciples that were there to pray for each person and receive their confession before they fully immersed (lowered them below the water so the were fully covered) in baptism.

Please know that there was no Bible with new testament writings at this time. Only the words shared by these men of God. People knew that Jesus had been there recently and had performed miracles. The power of the WORD is what "cut to their hearts" and helped them to accept Christ as their Savior.

We need to read the Word of God and come to know Him more deeply.

**Scripture:** Acts 2: 32 – 39

<sup>32</sup> God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. <sup>33</sup> Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. <sup>34</sup> For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,

"The Lord said to my Lord:

"Sit at my right hand

<sup>35</sup> until I make your enemies

a footstool for your feet."<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>36</sup> "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah."

<sup>37</sup> When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

<sup>38</sup> 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. <sup>39</sup> The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

**Questions:**

1. Can you imagine speaking to a crowd of over 3000 people?
2. Can you imagine speaking so that all the people in the crowd who don't speak your language understand you?
3. How many people did Peter speak to on that day?
4. Do you know what it means when someone says, "They were cut to the heart?"

**Next Steps:**

Ask your parents to google a Spanish or French song on YouTube. See if you can understand what is being said. Then think about people in a foreign land and all of a sudden you hear a man speaking your language. Wow!!