

At the start of the Reformation of the Church in Scotland in 1557, John Knox wrote to his congregation before going into exile and said,

“You are bishops and kings; your wife, children, servants, and family are your bishopric and charge. Of you it shall be required how carefully and diligently you have instructed them in God’s true knowledge . . .

And therefore I say, you must make them partakers in, exhorting, and in making common prayers, which I would in every house were used once a day at least.”

Let’s Worship God

12th-17th January 2014
Acts



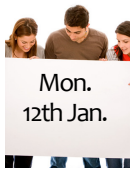
Let's Worship God is a ministry of



Airdrie Reformed Presbyterian Church

airdrierpcs.org, 01236 620107
Part of the RFCS - rpcscotland.org

Family worship, a joy to be experienced every day!



Mon.
12th Jan.

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn

Repent and be baptised 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. - Acts 2:38b

reading notes

Acts 2:33-36 - The Reigning King

Peter now turns to the event that ends Jesus earthly ministry - His Ascension (return to Heaven) and succession (His appointment to the job of being king over all by God). Peter says that Jesus has been exalted to the right hand of God (Acts 2:33), the place of authority and rule.

Peter also tells us that God has planned this and quotes Psalm 110:1 where David records a conversation between God and Jesus in Heaven, in which God invites Jesus to sit at His right hand.

But how can we know that this really does happen, that is, that Jesus really does go to Heaven? Because God has promised Jesus that the Holy Spirit will come when Jesus is exalted. It is a promise that Jesus has, in turn, given to the apostles. Therefore, since the Holy Spirit has come, Jesus must be exalted.

Peter makes his main point in verse 36. The signs and wonders, the death on the cross, the Resurrection, and the exaltation show, beyond any doubt, that Jesus is Saviour and Lord, and all Israelites ought to recognise this.

questions

1. Where did Jesus go at the end of His earthly ministry?
2. Who invited Him to go there, and which Psalm tells us about this?
3. What job did God give Jesus in Heaven?
4. What was the proof that Jesus was exalted?

praise pray

Ps. 95:7-9

1. Give thanks that Christ is our king.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
- 3 Pray for family matters.



Sat.
17th Jan.

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn

Repent and be baptised 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. - Acts 2:38b

reading

Acts 3:12-16 - Exalting Christ

notes

With all the people gathering around the healed man, Peter takes the opportunity to preach.

Peter first tells the amazed Jews not to marvel at the miracle, and not to think that he or John has done it. The miracle is an act of God, and God has done it to glorify Jesus. The man walks because of what God has done not because of what Peter or John have done.

Peter then preaches about Jesus. He reminds the people of how they have delivered Jesus to the Romans, denied him before Pilate, called for the release of the murderer, Barabbas, instead of Jesus, and finally killed Him. Peter tells the people that they are responsible for this because they will not receive Jesus but reject Him. By ignoring the actions of their leaders, they too share in the responsibility for Jesus death.

But God overcomes their rejection and murder of Jesus and raises Him from the dead. Jesus will now begin His work of ruling over the heavens and the earth from Heaven.

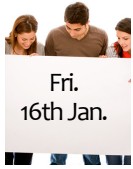
questions

1. What did Peter do?
2. Who does Peter say did the miracle?
3. What had the people done to Jesus?

praise pray

Ps. 96C:7-12

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
- 3 Pray for family matters.



Let's Worship God

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reading notes

Acts 3:1-11 - Giving the Gospel

Peter and John are going to the temple one afternoon to pray. This is a Jewish tradition of praying at certain times each day in the temple. As they come to the gate, they walk past a lame man who is sitting outside the temple. The man asks Peter and John for money. They look at him and ask him to look at them, which he does, expecting to get some money. But Peter and John don't give him money, instead Peter says to the man, In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk. He then takes the lame man's hand and helps him up, and the man rises and goes into the temple with them, walking and jumping, and praising God (Acts 3:8).

The reason why Peter tells the man to walk in the name of Jesus is because he wants the lame man to show that he has faith in Jesus, otherwise he would not have been healed. Jesus, and Jesus alone, has the power to heal.

The man's excited leaps and praises attracts attention in the temple, and when the people realise who he is, they are filled with amazement. The stage is set for Peter and John to preach the good news of the Gospel - salvation through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

questions

1. Where were Peter and John going?
2. What did the lame man ask for? Did he get it?
3. Who healed the lame man?
4. Why were the people in the temple amazed?

praise pray

Ps. 96C:1-6

1. Give thanks for the power of God to change people's lives.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



Let's Worship God

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reading notes

Acts 2:37-41 - A Response of Grace

notes

We are told that the people heard Peter's sermon and are cut to the heart (Acts 2:37). The Holy Spirit shows them how wrong they have been when they demand that Jesus be crucified. The people now feel very sorry for what they have done. This is true conviction of sin. It is one thing to say, I know I shouldn't have done it, it is something completely different to say, I know I shouldn't have done it, and I am very, very sorry that I did it. The people are so sorry that they cry out to Peter before he finishes his message: Brothers, what shall we do? (Acts 2:37).

Peter gives them two commands:

- First, they must repent. They must stop doing what God says is wrong and start doing what God's Word tells them.
- Second, they are to be baptised. Baptism is the sign that a person is one of God's people.

These two things are an evidence that the faith they have in Christ is genuine, and it is through this faith that forgiveness of sins comes. They can now enjoy life to the full for the glory of God.

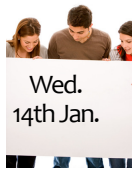
questions

1. We read that the people were cut to the heart. Why were they and what does that mean?
2. What did the people say to Peter?
3. What were the 2 commands Peter gave them?

praise pray

Ps. 96A:1-6

1. Pray that we will do what God wants us to, no matter the cost.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



Wed.
14th Jan.

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn
Repent and be baptised 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. - Acts 2:38b

reading Acts 2:39-41 - God's Promise to Covenant Children

notes Having told them to repent and be baptised, Peter, in verse 39, tells them about a wonderful promise that God gives to them. The promise is that salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ is guaranteed, not only to those who repent and believe, but also to their children who repent and believe.

Children who are brought up in a Christian home are so privileged because if they are regularly taught about God from the Bible, they therefore have the opportunity to learn:

- 1.) that they are sinners who need to be saved,
- 2.) that faith in Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation,
- 3.) that God wants them to grow in their love for Him throughout their lives.

Peter then preaches and pleads with these people to believe in Christ so that they will be saved from the corrupt generation in which they live. Surely it is no different for us today.

- questions**
1. What is the wonderful promise that God gives in these verses?
 2. Who is the promise for?
 3. How can the promise be fulfilled?

- praise pray**
- Ps. 96A:7-10
1. Pray for our covenant children.
 2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
 3. Pray for family matters.



Thur.
15th Jan.

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn
Repent and be baptised 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. - Acts 2:38b

reading Acts 2:42-47 - The Building Rises

notes What do you do when your church membership goes from 120 to more than three thousand in a day? The people in this church just keep on doing what they have been doing before:

- They continue to listen and think about the preaching and teaching of the apostles.
- They are also spending time in fellowship, sharing in the Lord's Supper, and praying together.

The reason they don't change anything is because the apostles have learnt to do these things from Jesus, and they are determined that since this is the way that Jesus wants it, this is the way it will be.

The church is filled with a sense of awe at the powerful things God is doing through the apostles. Their love for one another motivates the believers to spend time together, eating together, generally getting to know each other better, and becoming aware of each other's struggles and needs. This in turn leads to them helping each other more and more.

They are joyful and content, enjoying the new life with God and one another. And the Lord keeps adding to their number as the apostles preach.

- questions**
1. What did the people in the church do? Why?
 2. How did the early church deal with each other's needs?
 3. What happened as the apostles preached?

- praise pray**
- Ps. 96B:all
1. Pray that we will devote ourselves to God's Word and prayer.
 2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
 3. Pray for family matters.