

Salvation – entering the Kingdom of God

This study is to show what God has set up for all people to enter his new kingdom. To teach us how to go from the darkness to the light and get the wall of sin removed by our king, Lord and savior – Jesus.

The verses below illustrate the historical and God ordained moment of Acts 2 - to teach his plan for the salvation of all people. The verses on the left are prophecies about God's plan and then the completion of those prophecies in Acts 2.

Prophecies		Completion
Matthew 16:13-19	Peter has the keys	Acts 2:14,38
Mark 9:1	come with power	Acts 2:1-4
	Come in life of "some"	Acts 1:18-19
Luke 24:44-49	repentance and forgiveness of sin	Acts 2:38
	To all nations from Jerusalem	Acts 2:5
John 3:5-7	must be born of water and spirit	Acts 2:38
Acts 1:4-8	in a few days, with power, Jerusalem	Acts 2:1-5

Read the Prophecies about the future moment where God will share His plan for the forgiveness of sin and the salvation of all people

Read the completion of these prophecies in Acts 1 and 2

Go back and Read Acts 2:1-15, 22-24, 36-41 to see the whole picture

God brings about the completion of each of his prophecies at the time of Acts 1 and 2. This is the God ordained moment where he had Peter use the keys to his kingdom to relay His message of salvation to all people.

- 1) Belief that Jesus was and is God
- 2) A decision to make Jesus Lord
- 3) A decision to repent
- 4) Being baptized (in water) in Jesus' name for the forgiveness of sin
- 5) Receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit

Can you see all these concepts coming together as God is at work in Acts 2 sharing His message of salvation for all people – a time for all people from that point and forward to have a way to enter His Kingdom through Jesus his son?

Why do you think God would want all 5 of these concepts present in a person wanting to be part of His new kingdom? (Belief, repentance, making Jesus Lord, being baptized and getting the Holy Spirit)

If any one of these 5 concepts were missing what might that mean about a person's heart or understanding? Why might God care if one of these was missing?

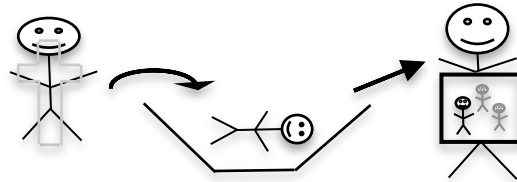
Acts 2:40-41

Once a person believes in who Jesus is, is moved to make Jesus Lord and repent and is baptized in Jesus' name (in water) – God adds that person to his kingdom and brings that person out of the darkness and into the light to be with God - God added 3000 people in this one day as they accepted and responded to His calling.

These people believed in Jesus and had emotions about what Jesus did for them in Acts 2:37 however in Acts 2:40 Peter says they need to save themselves – they are still lost until God adds them after they are baptized.

Why do you think God added them (saved them) after baptism and not before?

Some people believe baptism is optional for a person to be saved even though these verses say that it is part of God's plan – why do you think people can be moved to exclude baptism?



Romans 6:1-4

God says at baptism we actually participate in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus

As Jesus was raised to a new life by God after his physical death - God also raises us to a new spiritual life when we are baptized in Jesus' name (and in water) At baptism God brings us out of darkness and adds us to His kingdom, His family

How does God's plan in Acts 2 look compared to what you have done so far in your life? (refer back to your "current story") Are there any differences? If so, what do you see God's word teaching at this point in time regarding those differences?

If needed spend more time clarifying what God's word is saying on any topic highlighted above.

Read the account of the cross Matt 26:36-27:54

– before the next study and ask yourself why would Jesus go through this for me??

After reading the cross account – Highlight what Jesus went through for you personally?

2 Cor 5:14-15

Remember why Jesus' endured the cross for you – LOVE.

Remember your motivation to repent and live a new life in the Kingdom of God - LOVE

When things get challenging – and they will – we need to remember Christ's love shown on the cross and throughout his life to keep us walking in the light with God