

SUNDAY RECAP

CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH

The *Sunday Recap* is a quick rundown of our time of worship together on Sunday and a quick look ahead. Our hope is that this will help us continue to reflect on the good news of the gospel all week long. Enjoy!

>>>>>> A LOOK FORWARD (for the upcoming Sunday) >>>>>>

Sermon Scripture: Acts 2:42–47

[42] And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. [43] And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. [44] And all who believed were together and had all things in common. [45] And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. [46] And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, [47] praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Songs to Prepare for this Sunday:

- [Living Waters](#) by Kristyn Getty
- [Oh You Bring](#) by Hillsong
- [You Have Redeemed My Soul](#) by Page CXVI
- [He Will Hold Me Fast](#) by Keith and Kristyn Getty
- [Come Thou Fount](#) by St. Andrews Hymns

<<<<<<<< A LOOK BACK (to last Sunday) <<<<<<<<

SCRIPTURE TO MEDITATE ON

Acts 2:21 And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Was there a song lyric or reading that struck you on Sunday? What was it and why did it impact you?
- What about the message of the gospel “cuts” you?
- How do we often mess up the purity of the gospel message with things besides the work of Jesus? What do we often add to it?
- Why is the gospel message something we never “move on from”? Why is it a message for both unbelievers and believers?

QUESTIONS FOR KIDS

Review these questions from the [New City Catechism](#):

Question 20: Who is the Redeemer?

The only Redeemer is the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, in whom God became man and bore the penalty for sin himself.

Question 21: What sort of Redeemer is needed to bring us back to God?

One who is truly human and also truly God.

Question 24: Why was it necessary for Christ, the Redeemer, to die?

Since death is the punishment for sin, Christ died willingly in our place to deliver us from the power and penalty of sin and bring us back to God. By his substitutionary atoning death, he alone redeems us from hell and gains for us forgiveness of sin, righteousness, and everlasting life.

Question 25: Does Christ's death mean all our sins can be forgiven?

Yes, because Christ's death on the cross fully paid the penalty for our sin, God graciously imputes Christ's righteousness to us as if it were our own and will remember our sins no more.

SUGGESTED RESOURCES

Videos: [Ordinary People Living on Mission](#) by Saturate

Article: [Christless Christianity](#) by Michael Horton

Book: [Total Church](#) by Timmis and Chester

Podcasts: [Speaking the Truths of Jesus pt.1](#) by Saturate

SONGS WE SANG **Check out our Spotify playlist here: <https://goo.gl/BQddvV>*

[In the Hours](#) by Indelible Grace

[It is Well](#) by Lauren Daigle

[How Deep the Fathers Love](#) For Us by Austin Stone Worship

[All My Hope](#) by Crowder

[Jesus Paid It All](#) by Chelsea Moon

[Come to the Altar](#) by Elevation Church

READINGS

CALL TO WORSHIP

C: Oh give thanks to the LORD;

call upon his name;

make known his deeds among the peoples!

Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!

Glory in his holy name;

let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

- Psalm 105:1-3

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Lord we have worn masks of love and devotion while we have rejected your law and have lived lives of independence from you

C: For these sins, Lord forgive us

L: We have worn masks of unity and sacrifice, but our lives are filled with broken relationships and selfishness

C: For these sins, Lord forgive us.

L: We have worn masks that state "Jesus is enough", but our lives have been filled with seeking pleasure and hope in everything but Jesus.

C: For these sins, Lord forgive us.

L: We have worn masks of the gospel of grace, but our lives have been filled with religion- seeking to earn a new identity apart from the work of Jesus Christ.

C: For these sins, Lord forgive us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: Christ replaces our false masks with His own true face. This unmasked God masks us with himself. From head to toe, heart to soul, we are covered with the righteousness of Jesus. When our Father looks at us, he sees holy ones—saints, not sinners.

You are forgiven and sainthood is yours, in Christ.

C: Hallelujah! Christ has saved us! He is all we need

PASSING OF THE PEACE

By His perfect life, His sacrificial death, and His victorious resurrection, Jesus gave us back that which we lost in the garden of Eden- peace with God and peace with each other. It is in that peace that we approach God and approach one another, Lets greet one another with that peace now.

BENEDICTION

L: You have been redeemed by the unending love of God, known fully in the God-man Jesus Christ. If you have experienced that love you are a carrier of the greatest news that has ever existed. Go now spreading the good news that Jesus came to save all who will receive Him.

Peace be with you!

SERMON REVIEW

Sermon title: “The First Sermon” by Pastor Ryan Stanley

Watch it again here: <https://cccplainfield.org/sermon/the-first-sermon/>

Sermon Overview:

The first thing we might notice here is that we are once again seeing the Holy Spirit empower people to speak the message of the Gospel. The first time the Holy Spirit did it by giving the 120 followers of Christ the ability to speak different languages so they could speak to those from different lands. Now here in Acts 2:14-41 we have Peter being empowered to tell the crowd that they killed Jesus and He indeed is the One God sent. From these two first scenes (after the Spirit descends) it seems like the work of the Spirit is to empower the church to communicate the message about Jesus.

That can be quite comforting to us since we are part of this lineage called the “church”. This is not something the Spirit did in the past, but it continues to be the way people hear about Jesus and what He has done to save humanity. Acts 1:8 never happens if regular people neglect to communicate the good news of forgiveness in Jesus Christ. He is in us and working through us!

Let’s consider this message from Peter from the standpoint of “contrasts”. If we do we’ll see that this is an Old/New Message, an Exclusive/Inclusive Message, and a Damaging/Healing Message.

SERMON SUMMARY: The Holy Spirit empowers us to tell others about forgiveness in Jesus

First, its an Old/New message. Peter quotes three passages from the Old Testament ensuring these Jewish people that this is not an entirely new message. The prophet Joel spoke about the Holy Spirit depending on all people, and that is exactly what has happened in Acts chapter 2. Likewise, when David spoke of God not abandoning his soul to Hades or letting his holy one see corruption, you might have thought David was speaking of himself. But the problem with that interpretation, according to

Peter, is that David is dead and they all know where his tomb is. The Newness to this message is the fact that we now know David was speaking of Jesus Christ. He is the one who did not remain dead, but instead rose from the grave. The message is old, the message is new. In other words as St. Augustine said, “The new is in the old concealed; the old is in the new revealed.”

Secondly this is an Exclusive/Inclusive message. It is *exclusive* in its content. The message has one topic and one alone- Jesus Christ, his life, death, and resurrection. That is what Peter communicates to these people because *that* is the gospel! The Apostle Paul understood this and said to the church in Corinth “And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified” (1 Corinthians 2:1–2).

The *inclusivity* of the message is in the fact that it is for ALL PEOPLE! There is no one in any part of the word at any time in history that doesn’t need forgiveness in Jesus Christ! Peter quotes from the prophet Joel saying:

And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.’ Acts 2:21
And then He states: “For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.” 2:39

The message of the gospel welcomes all who will come. All who see their need are welcome to repentance and faith in Christ!

Lastly, this message is a Damaging/Healing message. After the crowd hears Peter we read of their response:

Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” - **Acts 2:37**

They are convicted that what Peter said is true- they have rejected and crucified the Messiah, Jesus. They must have also been scared, for they have murdered the One God sent! What would God do to them now?!? Part of the reason it cut them is that Peter has made it personal. Peter’s message was not simply informational (Jesus has died and been raised), but rather extremely personal-

Acts 2:23 this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, *you crucified* and killed by the hands of lawless men.

And again...

Acts 2:36 Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom *you crucified*. ”

The amazing part about this is what Peter instructs them to do to in their state of extreme guilt, regret, and sorrow-

Acts 2:38–39 And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins...”

That’s it!?! They killed Jesus and all they have to do is express the conviction on their heart and have water over their head and they are forgiven of EVERYTHING??? Why? Because the death of Jesus, (which they are responsible for) was actually the way through which they received forgiveness. What an amazing turn in the story (at least from our vantage point).

Thoughts for us from this text:

1. **Do you know that message? The gospel message that is Christ alone (not mixed with anything else)**
2. **Does that message “cut you to the heart”? Or is it merely a cognitive truth for you?**