



Purley Baptist Church

Discipleship Guide 12th April 2020

Freed from the agony of death (Acts 2:22-36)

This Week's BIG IDEA: Acts 2:22-36 is a long sermon delivered by the Apostle Peter. A significant chunk of it consists of quotes from the Old Testament. Even though the Holy Spirit takes a major role in this event, the focus clearly is on Jesus. This is just as Jesus had predicted. Jesus would ascend and the Holy Spirit would live in His people. The Spirit does not bring glory to Himself but to the risen Lord Jesus. Peter says 5 things about Jesus (1) Jesus is accredited by God, (2) Jesus was murdered by you, (3) Jesus died and was buried, (4) Jesus was raised by God and, (5) Jesus has been exalted and gone to be at the Fathers right hand.

For new Groups

I'm aware some groups are meeting for the first time this week. Here's some ice breaker questions you might want to use as you get to know your group:

- What room in your home do you like best?
- The thing that has given me the greatest sense of achievement is ...
- When was the last time you did something for the first time?
- Tell us about your favorite film or book.

CONNECT UP and IN: Fix your eyes on God and give him an opportunity to speak to you through his Word

For groups meeting this week I've kept the study quite light to give you more time to pray and discuss how you could use the 'heartbeat' section as individuals during the week.

For starters...

If you were given an audiences undivided attention to speak about Jesus what one thing would you want to say about him?

1) How did God 'accredit' Jesus? (v. 22)

2) In Verse 23 Peter says "you... put him to death". How might we talk about being responsible for Jesus' death even though it happened 2000 years ago in a country over 2000 miles away?

3) Look at Psalm 16:9&10. As those who may fear death, how does the resurrection give us hope?

4) Read verse 38. What does it mean for someone to repent? How do you know you have done this and are continuing to do this?

CONNECT OUT as a group to serve the world around you

Paul says "... faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ." (Rom. 10:17)

How might we use all the available online content to share the good news of Easter with others?

Heartbeat

'We always thank God for all of you and pray for you constantly' 1 Thess 1:2

Before you work through these prayer ideas, why not have pen and paper to hand and as you pray through the points, write down the names of people as they come to mind. You can then use this sheet during the week to continue to pray for them- as a 'heartbeat' of prayer for them to our Father God.

First, spend some time giving thanks to our Lord. Thank Him for:

- The hope we have in our saviour Jesus- as remembered and celebrated at Easter.
- For family and friends
- Members of your life group, or a ministry you been part of.
- Our Church family as a whole
- Prayers you may have seen answered recently.

Now turn to pray:

- For those you know who are unwell and need God's healing touch.
- Those who are anxious about jobs and finance-needing Gods provision and peace.
- Those particularly struggling with being in lock down-needing encouragement, comfort, strength.
- For our nation and NHS-you may want to use the points provided last week for this.

Please remember our Church is being called to unite in prayer and fasting on Wednesdays.