Date: 16th May 2021  Passage: Acts 2:14-41  Preacher: Andy Bruins

Sermon Summary

This is the first time that the Gospel is preached in the book of Acts. Peter addresses a crowd gathered in Jerusalem from all over the Roman world and sets about explaining the meaning of what they have just seen and heard. Here we find Peter drawing from the writings of the prophets and the psalms as he explains that we are now living in the “last days”, that Jesus is risen and that forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit is available to all who will repent and be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ.

Personal Application

Q Read v14-21. Why does Peter quote from the prophet Joel?

Q What does Peter say will characterise these last days in which we are living?

Q Read v22-36. What does Peter want this crowd to know about Jesus?

Q Why does Peter say Jesus died? How do the crowd know that He is now alive?

Q Read v37-41. How do the crowd respond? Why do you think it was such a dramatic response? Do we see this kind of thing today?

Q What does Peter tell the crowd they must do?

Q How does the way Peter preaches the gospel in this chapter challenge us? Would you do it differently? How and why?
Acts chapter 2 ends with a wonderful description of the new church community in Jerusalem. Luke describes the way they lived together and the activities that went on in the early days of the church. He describes the people as being devoted to certain things – there were certain key things that were a priority for them and that should also be a priority for us.

Q Read v42-47. What four things does Luke say that these first believers were devoted to? How often did they meet together? What did they do when they met?

Q Which of these things do you find it hardest to make a priority?

Q What is “the Apostle’s teaching”? Do we still have access to it? How could we be more devoted in this area?

Q Read v44-45. How did they care for each other? Are these verses saying that we shouldn’t own anything, or that it’s wrong to be wealthy?

Q Read v47. Why do you think eating together was such a feature of this community? How could we be better at this?

Q What do you think it means that they enjoyed the “favour of all the people”? Should we expect this today?
Date: 6th June 2021  Passage: Acts 3  Preacher: Andy Bruins

Sermon Summary

This chapter tells the story of the healing of a paralysed man. A man in his 40s, who has never walked, is instantly and completely healed in the name of the risen and glorious Jesus Christ of Nazareth. Peter and John are in the Jerusalem temple complex and as a large crowd gathers to see such a wonderful miracle, Peter again uses the opportunity to preach the gospel.

Personal Application

Q Read v1-10. What do we know about the man who is healed?

Q Why does this miraculous healing gather such a large crowd (see v11)? What is significant about the fact that this man now “went with them into the temple courts…” (v8?)

Q Read v11-26. Who healed this man? What does that tell us?

Q In v13-18, how does Peter show that his audience are sinners? Why is ignorance not an excuse?

Q In v19-26 Peter tells them what they must do. What is it? What is surprising about v26

Q How is this man a good illustration of each one of us in how we stand before God?