

TAKEAWAY

EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE



Part Five: Acts 2:14-41

At Maybridge we want to be a church of disciples who make disciples – we hope this takeaway session encourages practical outcomes in the lives of the individuals in your group. The focus of group discussion should be on becoming 'doers of the word' and not just hearers or people who enjoy a good discussion!

There are more questions and discussion prompts than you'll have time for, so feel free to use what is helpful for your group as time allows and discussion flows.

INTRODUCTION

At heart Acts is *a message for everyone everywhere, about a person who is for everyone everywhere*. In this session, we unpack Luke's account of the day of Pentecost in Acts 2:1-13. Rather than a focus on supernatural experiences, we see that the Holy Spirit ultimately empowers and equips the church to share Jesus with everyone, everywhere

SHARE

- If someone asked you to tell them what Christians believe in one sentence, what would you say?

READ

Acts 2:14-41

DISCUSS

What, in your own words, are Peter's points? (Maybe make a bullet-point list as a group).

How does Peter use Joel's prophecy (found in Joel 2:28-32) and David's Psalms (Psalm 16 & 110) to explain what's happening?

Peter considers his audience's background and beliefs (first century Jews) before he speaks explicitly about Jesus. Why do you think that matters? What might that look like today?

Peter presents Christianity as "news" about something that happened, not as advice, a philosophy or a religion. Do you find that convincing, surprising, difficult, or encouraging? Why?

Sunday's message said that above all other problems (and we could list many!) the *deepest* human problem is sin – rejecting God and putting ourselves at the centre. Do you agree or disagree? Why?

Peter tells the crowd, "you crucified Him." This directness might make us uncomfortable. But why was it important that he said it? Do we still need to say this, or words like it, today?

Why do you think the crowd was "cut to the heart" (verse 37)? Have you ever experienced conviction like that about something in your own life? How does Peter respond when they ask "What shall we do?"?

Sunday's message described society as "corrupt" in the sense that every culture contains lies, injustice, and brokenness. Where do you see that most clearly today?

'Is the message about Jesus at the heart of what you believe or not?' How would you personally answer that right now? Is the Holy Spirit prompting you to respond to the news of Jesus right now?

PRAY

TRY OUT

- How would you explain your faith to anyone who doesn't know Jesus yet? Spend some time reflecting and preparing how you would explain. Pray for the opportunity to share your faith with others in the days ahead.
- Read through Acts 2.
- **How have you found last week's takeaway?:**
Research a few global christian mission charities or organisations and consider prayerfully or financially supporting them. Commit to pray for them over the next month or so...