

## NSAC Small Group Discussion Guide

**Sermon: “3000 Saved” Dave Sattler NSAC January 28, 2024**  
**Series: “Lessons from the First Church” Text: Acts 2:14-41**  
**Sub-texts: Jeremiah 31:31; 33-34, 2 Corinthians 10:5, Ephesians 2:13**

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### I. Introduction:

- Name the two events that drive the storyline of Acts. Discuss the impact of the resurrection of Jesus and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.
- What is the Festival of Pentecost? And, why might this have been a good time for God to act?
- Pastor Dave said, “*God orchestrates just the right audience at just the right time in just the right location.*” Why might the temple steps in Jerusalem have been the ideal location for Peter’s sermon at Pentecost?

### II. Read: Acts 2:14-41 (Selected Verses)

### III. Questions on the Text

1. From what we know about Peter (his character and his past), what do we see/hear in this passage that’s surprising?
2. What is the crowd’s explanation for the signs and wonders and how does Peter address this? (v15)
3. Pastor Dave said, “*There are no human categories for the awesome works of God.*” Discuss.
4. Jennings says: “*Acts depicts life in the disrupting presence of the Spirit of God.*” What do you think about this statement?
5. Discuss how these Pentecost events were anticipated by the prophets—particularly Joel & King David. (v16-21/29-32)
6. How does Peter outline both the humanity and divinity of Jesus? Why is this so important? [That Jesus lived, died, and rose again is important theologically. Because He is fully human He could represent us on the cross. And, because Jesus is fully God and lived the only-ever righteous, sinless life, He was the perfect sacrifice on that cross.]
7. Discuss: Who really killed Jesus? (v22-24)
8. What do you think of the response question the crowd asks? (v37)

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9. What does Peter ask the crowd to do? Discuss “repentance.” [Jesus invites us to make a *change of direction*—stepping out in faith, to *turn from* our ways of living for self and sin, and *turn to* God and His salvation.]
10. What was the impact of Peter’s sermon? (v37/41)

### IV. Life Application Questions

#### A. ***The Christian message is a time-tested story.***

- Read Jeremiah 31:31-34. Name some features of the new covenant that we see fulfilled in Acts 2 at Pentecost.
- Pastor Dave said, “*Jesus’ work on the cross on our behalf demands a response. The God of the Christian Story must be chosen by a simple yet profound decision of our will: to repent and put our faith in Jesus for salvation.*” Have you made this decision? Why? Share.

#### B. ***God loves to empower and deploy ordinary people.***

- Describe the transformation we see in Peter. Where did it come from? How did God use Peter to reach others? What’s so amazing about this?
- Discuss how the Christian Story is a message far more powerful than its messengers.
- Have you ever felt far from God—or like God could never use you? Why?
- Read Ephesians 2:13. Discuss how Jesus loves to restore us and even redeem our past and use us to reach others!

#### C. ***Be open to the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit.***

- Pastor Dave said, “We mustn’t box the Spirit in by attempting to recreate past experiences, or by manipulating people, spaces, or the work of God.” How might the Holy Spirit move with different people in different ways?
- Name some ways we resist or inhibit the work of the Spirit in our lives.
- Discuss this quote from Jim Cymbala: “*True Christianity is about the supernatural power of God, delivering us and keeping us on a daily basis. Teaching, preaching, and discipleship have their place, but they can never replace God himself.*”
- How may our hearts be open to **receiving** more of the life and ministry of the **Holy Spirit** in our lives and in our church?