

REFLECTION

Questions

ACTS 2:38

- How does the crowd's reaction in Acts 2:37 ("cut to the heart" and "What shall we do?") compare to how people typically respond to sermons or spiritual conviction today? What made their response different?
- Have you ever experienced a moment of deep conviction by the Holy Spirit? What triggered it, and how did you respond?
- In your own words, explain the difference between "feeling sorry" (remorse) and true biblical repentance (a change of mind and direction). Why is this distinction important?
- What are some specific areas in your life right now where God might be calling you to repent? (Consider attitudes, habits, relationships, or priorities.)
- Why do you think "Repent" is the very first word in Peter's response? How does this challenge common modern presentations of the gospel?
- Why was baptism such a radical, public step for the Jews on Pentecost? In what ways is (or should) baptism a bold public declaration for believers today?
- If you have been baptized, reflect on that experience. How did it strengthen your faith or witness? If you have not yet been baptized as a believer, what is holding you back?
- How does the symbolism of baptism (death, burial, resurrection) connect to your daily Christian walk?
- How does the promise of "remission of sins" bring comfort or freedom to someone weighed down by guilt from past sins?
- What does it mean practically in your life that you have received (or can receive) "the gift of the Holy Spirit"? How have you experienced His presence, power, or guidance?
- Peter says the promise is "for you and your children, and to all who are afar off." How does this encourage you regarding family members, friends, or people from different backgrounds?
- Looking at the results in Acts 2:41-47, which characteristics of the early church (devotion to teaching, fellowship, generosity, joy, etc.) are most evident (or lacking) in your own life and church community?
- On a scale of 1-10, how would you rate your current lifestyle of ongoing repentance? What is one practical step you can take this week to grow in this area?
- How can you share the message of Acts 2:38 with someone in your sphere of influence this week (family, coworker, friend)?
- What is the Holy Spirit saying to you most clearly through this sermon?
- Write a short prayer of response to God based on Acts 2:38 (include repentance, gratitude for forgiveness, and a request for the Spirit's power).
- Who in your life needs to hear this gospel invitation? How will you pray for them and possibly share with them?