

What effect did Peter's sermon have?

What can distract Christians from knowing and sharing the good news of the gospel?

*Pray for five specific people you know who are not yet believers, or perhaps believers who have forgotten the good news. Pray that they will respond to the good news soon, and that you can play a part!*

## Wednesday

Read Acts 2:42–47 again. List the activities of the early church mentioned in this passage:

What impresses you about the lifestyle of the early believers?

What aspects of this lifestyle would you like to adopt? How?

*Pray that God will help our church to be more like this description of the Acts church!*

## Thursday

Read Acts 4:32–37. What activities are described here?

What possessions would you be willing to part with to help someone in need?

What can you do in the next few weeks to live more like this?

*Please pray specifically for the "World's Biggest Garage Sale", that God will use it in great ways.*

## Friday

Read Acts 2:1–13 and Acts 5:12–16. How do you think our church might benefit from having a greater awareness of the ministry of the Holy Spirit?

In what area do you think our church could use supernatural power?

*Ask God for a healthy, biblical view of the Holy Spirit in our church. Pray that He will empower the church this season in mighty ways!*

## Saturday

*Please look back over the notes from this weekend and pray that our emphasis and environment will reflect these scriptural principles in increasing ways. Pray that God will use the Grace Immersion powerfully at our church and beyond.*



# BREAKTHROUGH

WEEK 3

## For Lasting Impact

September 11 & 12, 2010 • René Schlaepfer

### Can it happen again?

- Acts 1:15: \_\_\_\_\_ people
- Acts 2:41: 3,000 people
- Acts 4:4: 5,000 men alone
- Acts 6:1–7: "The number of disciples increased rapidly!"
- Acts 21:20: "You see, brother, how many **thousands** have believed."
- By Acts 21 there were about \_\_\_\_\_ believers in Jerusalem. The population of Jerusalem was about 200,000.
- One group in a single room expanded to 32 countries, 54 cities, 9 islands, and the capital of the Roman Empire in 25 years.

### What fueled the breakthrough of the early church?

What they did not have:

- Unlimited financial backing
- Stable economy
- Great buildings
- Favorable government
- Flawless administration
- Supportive media

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles.

All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. Acts 2:42–47

## Emphasis

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching... *Acts 2:42a (NIV)*  
"...everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." *Acts 2:21 (See 2:20-40)*  
"We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved..." *Acts 15:11*  
The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved..." *Acts 16:29-31a*  
"Because of this, my heart will be glad, my words will be joyful, and I will live in hope!" *Acts 2:26 (CEV)*

### Coming in 3 weeks...

# GRACE IMMERSION

- 7 weeks of rediscovering the goodness of the good news!
- Weekly services about grace!
- Daily meditations and Bible readings
- Mid-week small groups

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. *Acts 2:45*  
There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need. *Acts 4:34-35*  
Good \_\_\_\_\_ create good \_\_\_\_\_  
which brings openness to the good \_\_\_\_\_

**World's Biggest Garage Sale — October 18**

**Serve The Bay — October 23**

**Food Drive conclusion — November 14**

## Environment

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
They devoted themselves... to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread... *Acts 2:42*  
...they were like family to each other. *Acts 2:42 (CEV)*  
All the believers continued together in close fellowship... *Acts 2:44 (TEV)*  
...[they] lived in a wonderful harmony. *Acts 2:44 (Message)*  
They broke bread in their homes and ate together... *Acts 2:46b (NIV)*  
...they met in small groups in homes for communion, and shared meals with great joy and thankfulness. *Acts 2:46b (LB)*
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
They devoted themselves... to prayer. *Acts 2:42 (NIV)*  
Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. *Acts 2:43*

### The big question:

What am I \_\_\_\_\_ ?

## Daily Meditations

Spent some time each day this week meditating on the topic

### Monday

Read Acts 2:42-47. Look back over your notes from the weekend message. Was there anything about the teaching that particularly caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

In which of the four main areas do you think you need to grow the most? What about our church?

Please pray that TIC will grow in each of the four areas studied this weekend.

### Tuesday

Read Acts 2:14-41. List all of the aspects of Peter's message that you would classify as "good news":



They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

*Acts 2:46-47*

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