

Unit 30, Session 1

Peter Preached in Jerusalem (Acts 2)



Dear families,

The latter portions of Acts 2 relay the Holy Spirit's transformational work within not only the apostle Peter's life but also in the lives of thousands of new believers in Jerusalem. In what could have been a somber retelling of herd mentality gone wrong, we instead read of the power of the Holy Spirit at work within the life of Peter to bring life transformation to thousands who heard his message.

What evidence do we see of genuine life transformation in Peter's life? How is the Holy Spirit's power made evident by the legacy of the Acts 2 church? The apostle Peter's life was one of Scripture's greatest examples of discipleship. Though he had personally journeyed for three years alongside the Savior, Peter struggled with fear, hesitancy, and uncertainty. He was the man who sank from doubt while walking on water and denied Jesus' lordship not once—but three times. However, the Peter we find in Acts 2 seems to have overcome these stumbling blocks to his faith. But how? It was through the power of the Holy Spirit at work in his life, enabling and encouraging him to do the Lord's will.

The miracle of discipleship did not end with Peter simply learning from Jesus and being filled with His Spirit, only to then retreat and retire from his personal spiritual journey. Instead, he proclaimed the truth of the gospel's good news for mankind and brought many new believers into the fold as well.

We read of Peter's call to repentance for all those gathered in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost, but how can we know that these hearers truly experienced life transformation by the Spirit? The proof was in their legacy as a church, through the lifestyles they took on upon coming to the faith: devotion to the Scriptures, fellowship with one another, enjoying meals together, and prayer.

As you teach your kids this week, remember the role you play as a proclaimer of Christ's truths to the next generation, taking part in His mission so that your children may follow suit. As you lead a life of faithfulness and fruitfulness, they will see and experience the power of the Holy Spirit at work in your life.

Check out *The Gospel Project At Home* for resources designed to help you lead a family worship experience as well as suggestions for morning and evening prayer times and family activities.

FAMILY TALKING POINTS

CHRIST CONNECTION

This is the big idea of how this week's Bible story points to Jesus.

- **Babies & Toddlers:** God used Peter to tell others about Jesus. Everyone who believes in Jesus is changed forever.
- **Younger Preschool:** God used Peter to tell others about Jesus so they would believe and be changed too. Everyone who believes in Jesus is changed and will never be the same.
- **Older Preschool:** God used Peter to preach Jesus to the crowd so that thousands of people would believe and be changed as well. All who believe in Jesus are changed and will never be the same.
- **Kids:** Peter's sermon shows the Holy Spirit's power to save and change those who trust in Jesus. God used Peter to preach about Jesus to the crowd so that thousands of others would believe and be changed as well. All who believe in Jesus are changed and will never be the same.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION & ANSWER

This is an important biblical truth that your child will encounter each week of this unit.

- **Younger Preschool:** Why does God want Christians to tell others about Jesus? We tell others about Jesus so they can know Him and love Him.
- **Older Preschool:** Why does God command Christians to tell others about Jesus? We tell others about Jesus so they will hear and believe in Him.
- **Kids:** Why does God command Christians to tell others about Jesus? We tell others about Jesus so they will hear and believe the good news.

KEY PASSAGE

This is a Bible verse that relates to what your child will encounter each week of this unit.

- **Babies & Toddlers:** Tell others about Jesus. Romans 10:14
- **Younger Preschool:** We need to tell others about Jesus so they can believe in Him. Romans 10:14
- **Older Preschool:** How can they believe without hearing about him? And how can they hear without a preacher? Romans 10:14
- **Kids:** How, then, can they call on him they have not believed in? And how can they believe without hearing about him? And how can they hear without a preacher? Romans 10:14

**** Next week:** Peter Healed a Man (Acts 3)

