



church

WEEK TWO: WE TELL

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What is “church”? As we continue to go through the book of Acts, we see people respond to the Holy Spirit. Last week, we learned **He empowers** us, and **we gather** together as the church family. This week, we learn that as He empowers us, **we tell** others about what we have experienced and **we count** those that are added to the family of God.

Where Am I Today?

- 1) Think of something exciting and/or life-changing that has happened to you. What were some of your first reactions when it happened?
- 2) Now imagine that you had to keep that exciting news a secret. What if a man proposed to a woman and told her not to tell anyone? What if you got a new job and weren’t allowed to share it? How difficult would that be?

Into the Bible

- 3) **Read** Acts 2:4-13 as the first Christians began to tell others about Jesus. What “filling” did they experience before they told a single person anything? The people who heard this had one of two responses: what were they?



church

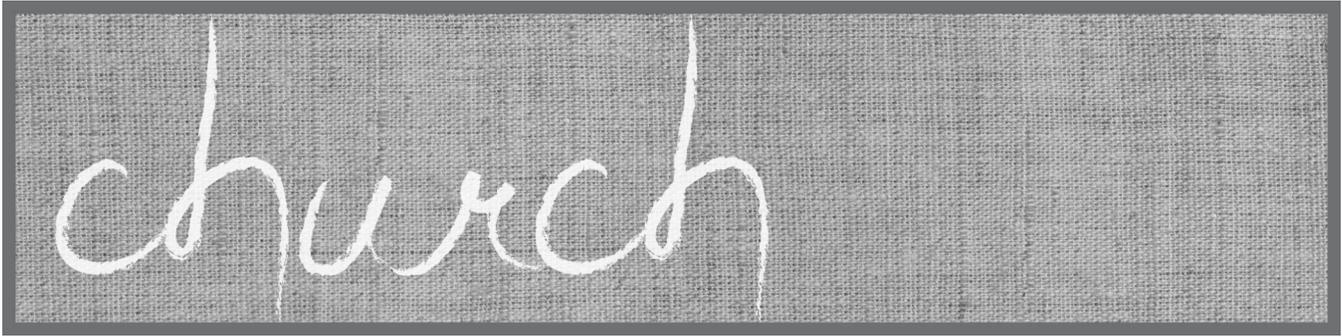
- 4) **Read** Acts 2:14-41 as the small church of 120 people grew to 3,000 before lunch. What does it tell you about God that He had these numbers both counted and recorded? What human act prompted these salvations? What are the "last days" in 2:17? Why is it significant that God has now poured out His Spirit on "all people?"

- 5) **Read** the following passages of people who had an encounter with Jesus (either directly or through the witness of someone else). What happened to them? How were their lives different after their encounter with Jesus? What did they say to others?
 - a. Acts 16:25-34
 - b. Luke 5:12-16
 - c. John 1:40-42
 - d. John 4:7-30

How Does This Apply?

- 6) If you're a Christian, think of what your life was like before you met Jesus. How is your life different now? Why is it important for *you* to know and remember the difference?

- 7) How can you take your life story, with an understanding of what God has done in your life, and tell it to others? What fears will you have to get over to do that? From whom can you gain strength?



- 8) How can you encourage others in your Life Group (church) to also share what has happened to them? If ***we tell*** boldly, can you imagine the impact we will have on this community?

Digging Deeper: Going Further on Your Own

- 9) In reference to Jesus, Peter said, "...this Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death" (Acts 2:23 NASB). How can Jesus be turned over by God's plan, killed by Peter's audience, and by godless men at the same time?

Isaiah 53

John 18:3-6

Luke 24:20

Matthew 27:46

Luke 22:22

Acts 3:18

1 Corinthians 2:1-9

Luke 9:21-25, 44