IN THE BEGINNING

ACTS 2:32.36,37-42

Acts 2:32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.

Acts 2:36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

Acts 2:37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Acts 2:39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

Acts 2:40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.

Acts 2:41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

Acts 2:42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

What do we find "in the beginning" of **every** individual's relationship with God?

Romans 10:12 For there is **no difference** between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.

Romans 10:13 For **Whosoever** shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

1. Hearing about the gospel!

Acts 2:32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.

Acts 2:36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

Jesus the man:

- ➤ Is the Christ / the Messiah!
- ➤ Is the Lord!
- ➤ Is risen from the dead!
- ➤ He is the source of forgiveness of sin and salvation from sin!

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Acts 2:39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

Acts 2:47... And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

Facts for all:

- >Always a matter of the heart
- **≻**Conviction may I say FEAR!
- >Hearing about Christ
- >Knowing my needs

Romans 3:10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

- >A person sharing
- ➤ The Holy Spirit calling...internally!
- >Strong emotions...

Acts 2:37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

Acts 5:33 When they heard that, they were cut to the heart, and took counsel to slay them.

Acts 7:54 When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth.

Acts 22:22 And they gave him audience unto this word, and then lifted up their voices, and said, Away with such a fellow from the earth: for it is not fit that he should live. Acts 22:23 And as they cried out, and cast off their clothes, and threw dust into the air,

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Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Acts 2:41 Then they that **gladly received** his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

2. Responding to the gospel!

Acts 2:37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

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Acts 2:41 Then they that **gladly received** his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

Repent: Inward transformation

Acts 5:31 Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.

Acts 11:18 When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.

Acts 20:21 Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, <u>repentance</u> toward God, and <u>faith</u> toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

Acts 14:27 And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.

Be baptized: outward demonstration & identification!

- **≻**Baptism does <u>not</u> save
- **≻**Baptism can<u>not</u> save
- ➤ Baptism is an **Outward demonstration** that you have repented and trusted Christ

> Baptism is **identification** with Christ!

➤ Baptism **ALWAYS** <u>follows</u> trusting, repenting, believing, receiving, calling...

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Acts 2:42 And they **continued stediastly** in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

3. Continuing in the gospel!

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Acts 2:42 And they **continued stediastly** in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.