

May 13, 2012
Randall L. Adkisson, Ph.D.

Monday

[Acts 2:39](#) "For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself."

The promise of salvation is a promise to all: to young and old, to Jew or Gentile, to all races, to all nations, to all peoples. That is *Clear Gospel* – clearly good news. Before Easter it seemed that most of the world had been left out of the offer of grace. The Jewish Nation seemed to say that only they were allowed to come to God, but Easter opened the tomb and opened the door to all. Now everyone who is willing to believe in Jesus and present himself or herself to Him as Lord will be saved. Do you believe the Gospel is for all? How are you presenting it to others?

Tuesday

[Acts 2:38](#) Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the Holy Spirit.

The Gospel is wonderfully inclusive. It is "to you and your children, and even the Gentiles." It is likewise totally exclusive, leaving out all who refuse to respond in faith to the presentation of Jesus' sacrifice for their sins. Church membership is not the issue of exclusion (nor does it include you in the redeemed.) The requirement is for repentance (turning from sin to God), and faith in Jesus' sacrifice. Have you trusted Jesus? Are you trusting Him right now? Such reliance upon Him and Him alone is the basis for salvation. That is the *Clear Gospel*.

Wednesday

[Acts 2:40](#) And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation!"

We are confident our world is 'perverse,' but a perverse world is nothing new. Men and women, young and old – including you and I – have been practicing sin since that day in the garden. What is the answer? The preached Gospel! This is your word of testimony of God's grace that urges others to come to salvation. Such preaching cannot be left up to the 'preacher' but must be embraced by all who follow the Savior. You need neither ordination nor license to preach in this way. You do need a willing heart. You must open your mouth.

Thursday

[Acts 2:42](#) They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

This is the making of a healthy church family. These are redeemed individuals who look deeply into and study God's word, who are gathered for congregational worship, who work toward healthy relationships through common Kingdom based activities, and who are walking in prayer. If you desire to be a part of such a healthy congregation, make these habits your habits as well. Don't go looking for the unhealthy; anyone can find that. Instead, focus on *your part* in building up the body through the intentional practice of these attributes in your own life.

Friday

[Acts 2:37](#) Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"

What is missing in today's feeble professions of faith? Why is the church weak and making little impact in society? We are missing the powerful, Holy Spirit induced conviction of sin. Without this sense of failure, judgment, and personal accountability before God, many people are merely joining a church of unredeemed individuals. Men and women, boys and girls must have a genuine sense of conviction, before they can have a genuinely experience of conversion. Without it there is no work of God, and salvation must be a work of God. The devil is convincing many that joining a church and vaguely believing in "God," enough. Parents are anxious for children to 'join,' without discerning if their child is 'convicted'. Salvation is more than this. Was yours?