



Part 2: Simple Prayer

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## **Last Week: Matthew 28 and Acts 1**

The “church” began as a movement – a gathering of people called to the mission of loving God and loving people

## **This Week: Acts 2-4**

### **Big Entrance**

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. – Acts 2:1-4

### **Simple Message**

“Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. This man was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. – Acts 2:22-24

### **Simple Question**

When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” – Acts 2:37

### **Simple Answer**

Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. – Acts 2:38

### **Big Response**

Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. – Acts 2:41

### **Simple Focus**

They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. – Acts 2:42

### **Simple Generosity**

All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. – Acts 2:44-45

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## Big Result

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 2:46-47

## Simple Statement

“Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.” – Acts 4:12

## Simple Reputation

When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus. – Acts 4:13

## Simple Prayer for Boldness

“Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” – Acts 4:29-30

## What will it take for CTK to become a church that pleases Jesus and impacts lives?

We need to focus on the simple and leave the big to God.

## Next Steps

**Baptism.** If you’ve accepted the simple message (Acts 2:22-24), follow through by attending one of the baptism classes on September 17 or 18, and being baptized the following weekend. Get all the details in today’s program or in CTK Life and sign up today at the Connection Point.

**CTK Life.** Pick up a copy of our quarterly flyer to find out ways to boldly get involved in your church and your community.

**Ownership Class.** On Sunday, September 18, discover or rediscover the mission, vision and values of your church and find out how you can deepen your commitment to this community of believers. Full details in CTK Life.

## Small Group Questions



- 1) Is there something simple that you do in your life that helps keep you grounded?
- 2) Over the past three years, has your life become increasingly
  - a. Simple?
  - b. Complex?
  - c. Status Quo?Are you happy with that trend, and to what do you attribute the change(s)?
- 3) Which of the simple components of the original church do you think was the most powerful in touching their community?
- 4) Do you believe Acts 4:12?
- 5) What bold spiritual move are you planning on making this week?
- 6) How can we pray for you today?