

The Pattern for Today

The book of Acts gives us a pattern for our practices today. The task of reaching the world is ominous but we have help from God. If we follow the pattern the world will be reached. If we do nothing, the world will be lost.

I. The Command and Promise Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 1:8

Jesus required of His disciples and consequentially us, to reach the entire world with the good news that He will engage in a personal relationship with us. The “gospel” is the good news of our opportunity, through the death and resurrection of Jesus, to begin a lifetime journey with Him. In both the Matthew and Acts passage, we are promised the ever abiding power of the Holy Spirit in our lives, to spread this message.

II. The miraculous event Acts 2:1-11

The overwhelming power of God was given, as predicted in the prophets, and people began to spread the message. Amazingly, every person from foreign lands was able through the power of God to hear a message vital to their destinies.

III. Peter’s scathing message Acts 2:14-36

The message of Peter was that the people had chosen NOT to believe that Jesus was Messiah. They were convinced by the Holy Spirit empowered message that, in fact, they had erred.

IV. The obvious question 2:37

To anyone having not yet believed, this question should always be asked.

V. The straight answer 2:38

Here is the answer as plainly stated as can be. REPENT and be baptized. “Repent”, means to change one’s mind. The answer is that those not yet believing should change their minds about the way they see Jesus, change their minds about how they view their own need. They should open their hearts and BELIEVE.

VI. The natural response 39-41

Simply put, they believed.

VII. They grew, learned, communed, prayed 42

This kind of growth is as natural as a newborn learning to walk.

VIII. Apostolic gifts 43

I wish that these gifts were common today. It would make the message simpler to convey. They had something that we do not apparently have today, miracles. We have something that they did not have, the Word.

IX. Unity and bonding 44-45

Other believers are naturally drawn to you now because of a common bond, Jesus.

X. They took it home 46

In that society, it is probable that most of the people present in the public forum were men. Now every house received this vital message, as it should be. If this message is good for you, it is surely good for your family.

XI. Our pattern 47, I Cor. 6:19-20, Gal. 5:22-23

Every day, people were accepting Jesus. We are also required to share the message as liberally as they did. In fact the same Holy Spirit that accompanied and empowered them also is with us.

The Pattern for Today

The book of Acts gives us a pattern for our practices today. The task of reaching the world is ominous but we have help from God. If we follow the pattern the world will be reached. If we do nothing, the world will be lost.

I. The Command and Promise Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 1:8

II. The miraculous event Acts 2:1-11

III. Peter's scathing message Acts 2:14-36

IV. The obvious question 2:37

V. The straight answer 2:38

VI. The natural response 39-41

VII. They grew, learned, communed, prayed 42

VIII. Apostolic gifts 43

IX. Unity and bonding 44-45

X. They took it home 46

XI. Our pattern 47, I Cor. 6:19-20, Gal. 5:22-23