

HIGH SCHOOL GUIDE 2

WE ARE CALLED TO REPENT AND BE BAPTIZED

YEAR: KNEEL / FOCUS: LIVING ON MISSION / SERIES: ACTS

BIG TRUTH: WE ARE CALLED TO REPENT AND BE BAPTIZED

Psalm 7:12; Matthew 3:2; Mark 1:15; 16:16; Luke 13:3; Acts 1:5; 10:48; 22:16

BIBLE VERSE: ACTS 2:38

“And Peter said to them, ‘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.’”

BIG IDEAS

- Jesus followers receive forgiveness of sins in Jesus’ name.
- Jesus followers receive the Holy Spirit.
- Jesus followers receive the promise of adoption.

BIBLE PASSAGE: ACTS 2:14-39

KNEEL: LIVING ON MISSION

The Kneel Year is an exploration of what it means to worship God with our all (Luke 10:26-28) and to use our influence to lead others to do the same. We know that as we pursue a life of worship, we will pursue a life of both wisdom and mission. Throughout this year we will study and pursue the wisdom of God through the book of Proverbs and the mission of God through the book of Acts, and we will learn how both of these things must inform and shape our influence as Jesus followers!

SERIES AIMS



Every student should know...

- The gospel has the power to turn the world upside down.
- They are empowered and chosen to be a gospel witness in the world.
- Our salvation has come by grace alone.



Every student should feel...

- Comfort that the Lord is with them wherever they go.
- Hope in the God of salvation.
- Responsible to use their influence to live for Jesus alone.



Every student should strive to...

- Read, study, and meditate on the entire book of Acts.
- Memorize the Bible verse each week.
- Pray consistently for boldness to make Jesus known.



Every student should want...

- To pursue faithfulness in living on mission.
- To share the gospel with people in their lives who do not know Jesus.
- To sacrifice their personal freedoms for the sake of the gospel

GUIDES AND WORKOUTS

The Guide provides a commentary page on each week’s Bible verse and on each Big Idea that unpacks the Big Truth. Each week also includes a Student Workout as a resource to help the student pursue spiritual disciplines on their own. Additionally, each week has a Family Workout that helps equip parents and guardians to have spiritual conversations with their student.



Property of Tri-Cities Baptist Church
171 Promise Land Dr. Gray, TN 37615

WE ARE CALLED TO REPENT AND BE BAPTIZED

BIBLE VERSE: ACTS 2:38

“And Peter said to them, ‘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.’”

The gospel calls people to repent.

“And Peter said to them, ‘Repent...’”

- The gospel is the good news of Jesus Christ's life. His life is that He came to earth and lived the perfect life that we could not. He died the death we all deserve, and He rose again on the third day. The good news for us is that if we repent of our sin, we can have new life in Him.
- The gospel calls for us to repent. It doesn't just call for us to believe it is true. We must act on it by repenting of our sin. It calls us to turn away from our sinful way of life and turn to Jesus. When we do this, we are made new in Jesus.

The gospel calls people to follow repentance with baptism.

“And Peter said to them, ‘Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins...’”

- Baptism is a part of salvation. It is the outward expression of an inward reality. It expresses that a person has repented of his or her sin and has believed in Jesus as their Savior. Baptism is an outward sign that he or she is following Jesus.
- The gospel calls people to be baptized. It is an act of obedience to follow our repentance with baptism. It is not an option or suggestion even that a person is baptized. It is part of becoming a follower of Christ. It is integrally tied to following Jesus, but it does not save from sins. Baptism alone is not salvation. Before Jesus began His own earthly ministry, He was baptized. We follow His example of obedience by following our repentance with baptism. We show that we have turned away from our sin nature and are now following Jesus.

The gospel enables the gift of the Spirit.

“...and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

- The gospel closes the great chasm between God and man caused by man's sin. It enables the gift of the Spirit because it removes the curse of sin upon man. With the curse removed, man can receive the gift of God's Spirit.
- The Spirit comes upon every believer and indwells them. It is a part of salvation, too. Like baptism, the gift of the Spirit is integrally tied to our repentance. When we repent, we become new people and receive the Holy Spirit. Our baptism is an act of obedience to God revealing the work of His Spirit in us.

WE ARE CALLED TO REPENT AND BE BAPTIZED

BIG IDEA #1: JESUS FOLLOWERS RECEIVE FORGIVENESS OF SINS IN JESUS' NAME.¹

[THIS]

After Jesus' ascension, His disciples received the power of the Holy Spirit at what is known as the Day of Pentecost. God sent His Spirit on that day to indwell believers already on the earth and every person who believes after that day. Peter, one of Jesus' disciples, preached on that day, declaring the good news of the gospel to those around him. The good news of the gospel is that people receive forgiveness of their sins. We all owe a sin debt because we all sin and fall short of God's glory. God is the standard by which every person is measured. We are not measured to our neighbor or to another person. God does not hold us up to someone else to see if we're holy enough or righteous enough. Instead, He holds us up to Himself in the person of Jesus and we all fall short of that glory. There is no person on earth who could ever measure themselves against Jesus and not be found lacking in holiness. Because of this, we all need salvation. We all need forgiveness for the sin that we commit against God, the rebellion in our hearts, and the way we reject God for our own selfish desires.

[THEREFORE]

Why does every person need forgiveness? Why do we all fall short of the glory of God?

Romans 3:23 tells us that everyone falls short of the glory of God. This means that we are all sinners and we do not and cannot measure up to the glory of God. Because of this, we all need forgiveness for our sins. We need to be forgiven for the sin nature that leads us to rebel against God.

[THIS]

Because God is the standard by which we are measured and none of us measure up to His standard of holiness, we are all in need of salvation. We are all born sinners and need salvation. God made a way through His Son Jesus. Peter preached this truth in his sermon in Acts 2:22-24. In these verses, we see that God's plan for our salvation was to send Jesus to die on the cross. Jesus came and lived the perfect life that we could not live. He died on the cross for our sin and God sees this death as fulfillment of the debt we owe for our sinfulness. The story doesn't end there as verse 24 tells us. God raised Jesus on the third day to live. Because of this new life, we can have new life. We have the opportunity to have forgiveness for our sin if we believe that Jesus died for us. When we repent of our sin and believe that Jesus is the one true Savior, we can be forgiven for our sin.

[THEREFORE]

Read Acts 2:22-24. How did God provide salvation for the world?

Through His Son Jesus, God made a way for anyone who believes in His Son to be forgiven for their sin. When we receive forgiveness, we are no longer held captive by our sin debt. We are set free from it and can follow God. This gives us salvation from our sin nature.

Read Acts 2:21. How does a person receive forgiveness in Jesus' name?

When a person calls on Jesus for salvation, he or she receives salvation. To receive forgiveness in Jesus' name means that He took our place and because of His perfection and righteousness, we can be forgiven. It is His work that allows us to be forgiven, not anything that we do or anyone we are.

1. Acts 2:38: Jesus died for our sin and we can be forgiven when we repent and believe.

WE ARE CALLED TO REPENT AND BE BAPTIZED

BIG IDEA #2: JESUS FOLLOWERS RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT.²

[THIS]

The Holy Spirit is one of the three persons of the Trinity. He is fully God and equal with God the Father and God the Son. The Holy Spirit has always existed, but He has not always lived inside of God's people. It wasn't until after Jesus' ascension into heaven that the Holy Spirit came, and on what we call the Day of Pentecost, we see that God sent the Holy Spirit to indwell believers. Those believers who were alive on earth received the Holy Spirit and every believer after that day received and receives the Holy Spirit at the moment of saving faith. The Holy Spirit is a gift from God to His people. Peter taught about the gift of the Holy Spirit in his sermon on the Day of Pentecost in Acts 2:38-39. The people Peter preached to were the same people who had called for the crucifixion of Jesus. As Peter preached, their hearts were pierced, and many believed in Jesus. Because of their belief, they received the Holy Spirit.

[THEREFORE]

How is the Holy Spirit a gift from God to His followers?

In Acts 1:4, we see that God's people were to wait for the gift of the Holy Spirit that God had promised. In the Gospel of John, Jesus taught His disciples that the Holy Spirit would be their Helper as seen in John 14:15.

[THIS]

God sends the Holy Spirit to His people to be their Helper and as a seal. The Holy Spirit indwells God's people and serves as a mark upon them showing the world that they belong to Him. This moment recorded in Acts is one of the most significant moments in the history of believers. Receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit is receiving the Spirit of the Holy God. It is a gift to have God's Spirit inside of us to guide us and help us. As His followers, we enjoy the benefit of God's presence in us always. There's never a time when we do not have Him with us. Additionally, the Spirit works in us and leads us to obey God by following Jesus' example in baptism. Baptism is an act of obedience as we obey God's command to outwardly express our inward faith. The Holy Spirit works in us to lead us to this.

[THEREFORE]

What is significant about Jesus' followers receiving the Holy Spirit?

John 14:15 and 26 show us that the Holy Spirit is not just a supernatural force. He is God and one of the three persons of God. This makes His presence inside of every believer significant. That He lives inside of believers is remarkable because He is fully God and equal with God the Father and God the Son.

Why is the gift of the Holy Spirit connected to repentance and belief in Jesus?

In Acts 2:37-39, we see that those who heard Peter's sermon were cut to the heart. When they realized that they had crucified Jesus and it was for their sins that he had died, they were pierced in their hearts. The Holy Spirit is part of this conviction, and He is part of helping people see their need for the salvation that Jesus offers. He is the power that leads Jesus followers to walk in obedience by being baptized.

2. Acts 2:38: All who believe in Jesus for salvation receive the Holy Spirit.

WE ARE CALLED TO REPENT AND BE BAPTIZED

BIG IDEA #3: JESUS FOLLOWERS RECEIVE THE PROMISE OF ADOPTION.³

[THIS]

In Acts 2:38, we see that those who believe in Jesus as their Savior receive forgiveness of their sins and are called into God's family. This family of God is His holy family made up of His redeemed people. God is the originator of family, having created the very first human family when He created Adam and Eve and joined them together in the Garden of Eden. Family is His idea, and it is His plan for His people. Because of sin though, we are all born broken and separated from God. God's perfect plan was broken by man's sin. Because of our innate sinfulness, we are not born into God's holy family. We are actually born separated from it. Our sin leads us away from God and not to Him. We are blind to His truth, and we do not seek Him. We see this in Peter's sermon in Acts 2:22-23, when he tells his listeners that they are the ones who crucified Jesus. In their sin, they couldn't recognize Him as their Savior. They were blinded just as we are blinded by our sin. This keeps us from God's holy family and makes us orphans. Through the life and death of Jesus, we are offered the chance to become members of God's family when we have saving faith.

[THEREFORE]

How have you noticed sin blinding you or someone else to the truth of God?

Spiritual blindness is the reality for every person. 2 Corinthians 4:4 and John 3:19-20 show us that we are all blind to God's truth. Often, we may think we understand spiritual truth, but until our eyes are opened after saving faith, we cannot know God or His truth. We believe lies and create our own truth that leads us down a path of destruction.

[THIS]

God's Spirit draws people to Him and illuminates the truth to them. Because we are all born into spiritual darkness, we do not understand truth or know that we need God's salvation. When the Spirit draws us, our spiritual eyes are opened, and we realize that we are sinners. This shows us that we are separated from God and in need of His salvation. This realization also leads to our adoption into God's family. This happens because God chooses to make us His children. When we are redeemed from our sin, we are brought into the family of God. Every person who is forgiven of their sin is reconciled to God and becomes His son or daughter. We are no longer orphans. Instead, we are part of His holy family. We have this promise of adoption through Jesus. Jesus makes this possible because He died on the cross for our sin. He made a way for us to become members of God's eternal family.

[THEREFORE]

How does Jesus make a way for people to be adopted into God's holy family?

Ephesians 1:5 and 2 Corinthians 6:18 remind us that God adopts people into His family through Jesus. This means that the work of Jesus on the cross makes it possible for people to become a part of God's family. Jesus removes the separation of sin and reconciles people to God. Without the work of Jesus, this isn't possible.

What part does the Holy Spirit play in drawing us to God's family?

John 6:44 and 16:8 show us that the Holy Spirit draws us to God and reveals to us that we need the salvation that Jesus offers. It is through this work that we are saved and adopted into God's family. The work of the Spirit opening our eyes and our belief in the work that Jesus has done makes us members of God's family.

3. Acts 2:39: God calls His people to Himself and makes them His children by adopting them into His holy family.