

## **Becoming a Follower of Jesus – Acts 2:22-47**

You can follow Jesus just like the very first followers who believed in Him and followed Him after The Passion and resurrection. Acts 2 gives us the story of what these first followers actually believed about Jesus, how they responded to the message about Jesus, what blessings they received, and how they devotedly served their Lord.

### **Believing in Jesus**

1. Jesus of Nazareth was human – vs. 22
2. Jesus was publicly endorsed by God – vs. 22
3. God had a plan to use Jesus' death on a cross – vs. 23
4. Jesus was murdered by lawless people – vs. 23
5. God raised Jesus from the dead – vs. 24-32
6. The apostles were witnessed the he was raised – vs. 32
7. Jesus reigns from Heaven in highest honor – vs. 33-34
8. Jesus poured out the promised Holy Spirit – vs. 33-35
9. Jesus is Lord – vs. 36
10. Jesus is Christ – vs. 36

### **Responding to the Message about Jesus**

1. They were deeply convicted in their hearts – vs. 37
2. They turned from their sins and turned to God – vs. 38
3. They were baptized in Jesus' name for the forgiveness of their sins – vs. 38-41
4. They called on the name of Jesus for salvation – vs. 38; also Acts 22:16

## **Receiving Jesus' Promised Blessings**

1. All of our sins are forgiven – vs. 38
2. We receive the gift of the Holy Spirit – vs. 38
3. We are saved from destruction and corruption – vs. 40, 47
4. Each person is added to the people of God and is a follower of Jesus – vs. 41, 47

## **Serving Jesus and His Followers with Devotion**

1. Devoting ourselves to the apostle's teaching – vs. 42-43
2. Sharing my life with others in devoted fellowship – vs. 42-45
3. Commitment to share the Lord's Supper and daily meals with followers of Jesus – vs. 42, 46
4. Devotion to daily prayer time – vs. 42, 46

## **Why Use Acts 2 as a Starting Point?**

Acts 2 is the first time we find people following Jesus after His death, burial, and resurrection. In fact, this is the first Gospel presentation after Jesus has gone back to heaven. This Spirit-inspired presentation of the Gospel (vs. 1-4, 17, 33) was prophesied in the Old Testament (vs. 16-21) and Jesus had promised it would happen (Acts 1:7-8; also Luke 24:45-49). The message focuses on how people are saved (vs. 21, 40, 47) and answers the question, "What must we do?" (vs. 37; also Acts 16:25-34) It teaches us how we can be forgiven of our sins (vs. 38) and how we receive the Holy Spirit as a gift (vs. 38-39). This fulfillment of the Great Commission (Luke 24:46-48; Matthew 28:18-20), tells how men and women are added to the family of God (vs. 41, 47).