

**Sermon Series:**  
**“Giving Your Life Away”**  
***A Church Built to Grow***

**Oct. 25,2009**  
**Acts 2:14-47**

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## **Time in the Word**

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### **Read & Observe: Acts 2:14-47**

Pentecost was quite a day. Along with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in a new way upon the earth came a flood--- 3000 new believers in one day. As you read the story ponder one thing—what do you do with 3000 folks who all say on the same day “I believe”? What would the greatest challenge be?

### **Answer**

1. The sermon and the response that started it all- 2:14-41.
  - a. If you had to describe to someone Peter’s Pentecost sermon, what would you say were the main points?
  - b. Did you notice he didn’t really give any kind of an invitation at the end? Why not?
  - c. So describe what was going on in the hearts of the crowd as this sermon ended (vs.37).
  - d. Peter’s final words of admonition focus on what? How did the people respond? What do you learn about the place of baptism in belief?
2. The next day—now what? 2:42-47
  - a. Describe the life of this newly created thing called “the church”. What were the key elements that they were devoted to?
  - b. Obviously a decision was made that the gathering of this group would be on two levels—everyone together and everyone in smaller groups in homes. Why was that decision made? What is it about each of these settings that is so important?
  - c. These weren’t “once a week” Christians. They met every day. Why the constant meeting?? What was it that drew them together with this kind of intensity?
  - d. So who led all these “house” gatherings, and how did these folks get trained?



## **Time for the Heart**

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It seems that from day one there was a statement being made by the apostles—the church of Jesus was going to be a relational, face to face kind of place. Growth was going to come through knowing and serving each other, as well as helping each other serve. And this would all be centered in Christ. In your life, what is it about relationships in the church that seem most challenging? How about the other side—what is it that blesses you most from having “brothers and sisters” in Christ? Can you tell of a time when someone else really helped you grow as a believer in Jesus.

