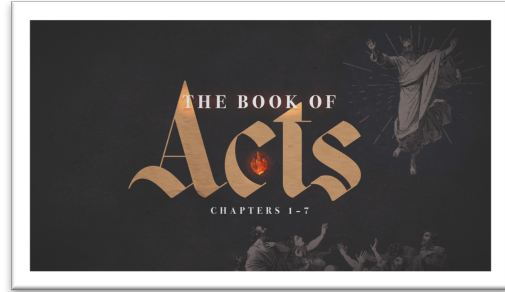


THIS JESUS

ACTS 2:22-36 // PASTOR TODD DUGARD
OCTOBER 6, 2019



This Jesus is human - identify with him (2:22a), powerful - have faith in him (2:22b), crucified - die with him (2:23), raised - find new life in him (2:24, 31-32), divine - worship him (2:25, 33), hope - rest in him (2:26-28), and Lord - submit to him (2:29-30, 34-36).

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Peter's message to the crowd clarified exactly who Jesus was for all of us. Peter raised important implications for those who profess to believe the gospel. Each point of this study affirms a truth about Jesus and then calls us appropriately to action.

Jesus is human - identify with him: *He knows your life is not always sunshine and rainbows. He understands the weight of human temptation and experienced the full range of human emotions. (Hebrews 4:15)*

- How do you share your personal burdens with Jesus in prayer so that you end up feeling like you're not alone in the struggle and bearing all the weight by yourself?

Jesus is powerful - have faith in him:

- What is one miraculous event from Jesus' life that helps you believe him?

- What's a new situation in your life for which you need to apply this faith so that you'll grow through the experience?

Jesus is crucified - die with him. Jesus is raised - find new life in him: *These two realities must be considered together to help us make sense of what God wants us to do. Romans 6:1-12 makes it clear that if Jesus of Nazareth is who you whole-heartedly follow, you will no longer go on sinning. For that reason, it's not easy to admit that we have habitual sins that seem hard to shake, but in grace we can.*

- Think of a sin that you struggle with continually. What's a verse from Romans 6:12-14 that helps you understand what it means to die with Christ? What will "dying with Christ" require of you?
- What are some "new life in Christ" choices you've made that have helped you resist sin and obey God instead?

Jesus is divine – worship him: *He is God; you are not! He has made you to worship him beyond the rituals of religious services. He wants your hours, minutes, and seconds to revolve around the truth that he exists and that everything else is meant to bring him glory all the time. (See Colossians 1:15-20).*

- What could you do to transform the least worshipful moments in your day to include more awareness and appreciation for God's presence?

Jesus is hope – rest in him: *He wants you to experience joy in him when you rest, yet there are believers who suffer from fear, anxiety and constant worry about the future.*

- What aspect of Jesus' nature or plans do you need to focus on when you want to reclaim joy in the middle of life's uncertain times?

Jesus is Lord – submit to him: *When we see Jesus as he is we realize that we must choose a response from one of two categories. We can believe or not-believe. We can surrender to the Lord of all or rebel against his legitimate claim to the throne of our lives. There's no safe place of non-submission.*

- Have you tried to delay surrendering to Jesus in your life or an aspect of it? Why does that seem preferable to actually submitting?
- What is a clear action or attitude adjustment that would bring that part of your life out of rebellion and into submission? Is there a way for other people to help you follow through on this?

Which area of application do you feel led to work on most? What does "working on it" look like if you could begin immediately?