



Fall Quarter 2021 Theme:
Celebrating God
Unit I. God's People Offer Praise

Lesson Titles:
Celebrating in Unity
(Faith Pathway Bible Studies)
Believers Praise God
(Townsend Press Sunday School
Commentary)

LESSON 4—September 26, 2021

Devotional Reading: Psalm 134

Background Scripture: Acts 2:32-33, 37-47

Print Passage: 2:32-33, 37-47

Key Verse(s):

They continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.
(Acts 2:42, KJV)

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They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.
(Acts 2:42, NIV)

► Questions to Consider:

1. What was Peter's message to the crowd on the Day of **Pentecost**?
2. What was the promise the people received when they repented and were baptized?
3. What was so significant about the early church?

► Lesson Aims

As a result of experiencing this lesson, you should be able to do these things:

- Understand Jesus' forgiveness of sins and the role of the Holy Spirit in your lives and in the life of the church.
- Discern how the love of Jesus and the gift of the Holy Spirit inspire believers of different backgrounds to share a life of worship, care, and witness.
- Plan opportunities for persons to encounter the Holy Spirit and begin a relationship with Jesus Christ through the ministries of your church.

► Lesson in Context:

In the lesson today, Peter was the chief spokesman for the apostles on the Day of Pentecost, delivering the first Christian sermon ever preached.

► Lesson Key Points:

I. The **Pricking** (Acts 2:32-33, 37-38)

- Key Point 1: Peter declared the central truth of the Christian Gospel—that Jesus was raised from the dead.
- Key Point 2: Peter appeals to the crowd to repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

II. The Promise (Acts 2:39-42)

- Key Point 1: God's Spirit is now available to anyone who believes God.
- Key Point 2: Peter pleaded with his listeners to accept the Gospel message.

III. The Praise (Acts 2:43-47)

- Key Point 1: The early Christians came together to share their possessions so that everyone's needs were met.
- Key Point 2: The early Christian church grew.

► **Lesson Summary:**

- Wonderful things happen when Christians come together in Christian love and unity.
- Christian love and fellowship manifested itself in the early church.
- A congregation that follows the example and pattern of the early church has the potential to be a very powerful spiritual force for social and spiritual change.

What Do You Think? (These questions are found in this week's Faith Pathway student book.)

1. Is it possible to come to Jesus without repentance—that is, if one's heart is not pricked of sin?

1. As we seek to commune with the Holy Spirit, in what ways can we truly fellowship with one another?

2. Are the Christian practices noted in today's lessons practical and useful today? Why or why not?

As a result of this lesson, I/my students will do the following:
