

## ACTS

# The First Sermon: Shock and Awe

### Warm-Up Questions:

- When was the last time you were completely overwhelmed by something good? How did you feel?
- What was it about Pentecost and Peter's sermon that was so overwhelming for the hearers?

**READ: Acts 2:12-17, 22-41**

### I. Overwhelming Glory (Acts 2:12; Luke 24:27; 2 Cor. 3:18)

- Adam said, "The Bible is not an instruction manual on how to be a 'good Christian,' It is not a religion of behavior modification. No, it's the revelation of the glory of Christ on every page."
  - What does he mean by this?
  - How does this challenge the way you view Scripture?
  - When were you last overwhelmed by the glory of Christ?
- Are you in danger of domesticating Jesus? Where might you be trying to fit him into your story, instead of letting him define yours?

### II. Unexpected Mercy (Acts 2:36-37)

- Have you been "cut to the heart" by your sin against God and his mercy for you? Do you need to be cut again?

### III. Wonderful Cross (Acts 2:23-24; Gal. 3:13; Acts 2:39)

- Why is the cross scandalous?
- Because of the cross, no one is too far off for God to redeem.
  - Is there anyone in your life you have written off as beyond redemption? Have you written yourself off?
- How has this week's message renewed your love for Jesus? What is one thing you hope to do differently this week as a result?

"When I regarded God as a tyrant, I thought my sin a trifle; but when I knew Him to be my Father, then I mourned that I could ever have kicked against him. When I thought God was hard, I found it easy to sin; but when I found God so kind, so good, so overflowing with compassion, I smote upon my breast to think that I could ever have rebelled against One who loved me so and sought my good."

C. H. Spurgeon