

# EMPOWER

## 21 DAYS OF PRAYER & FASTING

### GOD SPEAKS

Acts 2:14 – 38 (NIV)

January 21, 2024

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### MESSAGE NOTES

*“There are only two ways to live your life. One is as if nothing is a miracle. The other is as if everything is.”*

– Albert Einstein

*“Webster’s Dictionary defines a miracle as ‘an extraordinary, unusual wonder or marvel.’ Isn’t a bloodstream 100,000 miles long, in a small body, an unusual wonder?”* – James Robinson

*For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—His eternal power and divine nature — have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.*

– Romans 1:20 (NIV)

#### Four Ways God is Speaking Good News:

- **God is speaking through His promises**

*But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. — Acts 2:14 (ESV)*

*For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel: ... — Acts 2:15-16 (ESV)*

*“And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; even on My male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out My Spirit, and they shall prophesy.’ ”*

– Acts 2:17 – 18 (ESV)

*And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day. — Act 2:19 – 20 (ESV)*

*And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.’*

– Act 2:21 (ESV)

- **God is speaking through His mighty works**

*“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves know — ...” — Acts 2:22 (ESV)*

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- **God is speaking through the empty grave**

*... this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised Him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for Him to be held by it. – Acts 2:23 – 24 (ESV)*

*For David says concerning Him, “I saw the Lord always before me, for He is at my right hand that I may not be shaken ... For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. You have made known to me the paths of life ... – Acts 2:25 – 28 (ESV)*

*“Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Being therefore a prophet ... he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ ... This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses.” – Acts 2:29 – 32 (ESV)*

- **God is speaking through empowered people**

*Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. – Acts 2:33 (ESV)*

*Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus. – Acts 4:13 (ESV)*

*But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. – 2 Corinthians 4:7 (ESV)*

*“Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” – Acts 2:37 – 38 (ESV)*

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### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Discussion Starter: Albert Einstein once said, "There are only two ways to live your life. One is as if nothing is a miracle. The other is as if everything is." What stands out to you from this quote?
- Read Romans 1:20. How does God speak through creation to people and to you personally?
- Read Acts 2:17 – 18. How is God speaking today?
- Read Acts 2:21. What is the promise of this verse?
- What stood out to you from the message this week?
- We sometimes refer to Christ's life, death, resurrection, miracles and the Bible as God's "Special Revelation". Why is God's Special Revelation such a clear way that God speaks to us about knowing Jesus Christ as Savior?
- Read Acts 2:23 – 24. What do we learn from these two verses?
- Read Acts 4:13 and 2 Corinthians 4:7. What area of life may God be leading you to be bold in loving others and being a "witness" for Christ?
- We have one week left of our 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting. Take some time to pray for some of the ministries of ENCOUNTER.