

Quick to Act - cont.

*ing it is but the third hour of the day; ¹⁶ but this is that which hath been spoken through the prophet Joel:
- Acts 2:14-16 -*

On the Day of Pentecost in Acts 2, Peter was quick to speak up with the other apostles and teach the saving gospel of Jesus Christ. Some 3,000 people were saved that day (Acts 2:37-42). How great is that?

Can we be like this? Can we teach others the same saving gospel so that they can be saved too?

Quick to Welcome

*³⁴ And Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: ³⁵ but in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is acceptable to him.
- Acts 10:34-35 -*

Lastly, Peter was quick to welcome the Gentiles into the church. He learned from God in Acts 10 that God is no respecter of persons and that he needed to preach to the Gentiles also and welcome them.

Can we be like this? Can we welcome all today without prejudice. It's time to go out and act quickly like Peter to do what is right. - Chris Reeves

Sentence Sermons

- It is true that opportunity “knocks”, but it doesn't tear down the door.
- If you want to wear the crown, you have to be willing to bear the cross.
- Follow your conscience, yes; but make sure your conscience is following God's word.
- It is true that mankind did not evolve from monkeys, but that doesn't keep some men from acting like them.

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

We learned this past week in our VBS about the various quick actions of the apostle Peter. There were times when Peter did what was right and he did it quickly. We need to do the same. We need to remove the lethargy, apathy, indifference, and procrastination from our lives, do the right thing, and do it quickly.

Quick to Follow

¹⁸ And walking by the sea of Galilee, he saw two brethren, Simon who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishers. ¹⁹ And he saith unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you fishers of men. ²⁰ And they straightway left the nets, and followed him.
- Matthew 4:18-20

After Jesus met Peter and his brother in John 1, he called them again and others at a later time. They all followed Jesus quickly (Matthew 4:22; Luke 5:11).

Can we be like this? Can we follow Jesus quickly today when he calls us? So many people today are not interested in the gospel call of Jesus. Others who are interested in spiritual things are slow to respond or do not respond at all. They let the things of this world stand in their way to following Jesus.

Quick to Speak Up

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the parts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Who do men say that the Son of man is? ¹⁴ And they said, Some say John the Baptist; some, Elijah; and others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets. ¹⁵ He saith unto them, But who say ye that I am? ¹⁶ And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. ¹⁷ And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-Jonah: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father who is in heaven.
- Matthew 16:13-17

Sometimes Peter was quick to speak up and say the wrong thing. He did this in Matthew 16:22 when he rebuked Jesus and told him not to go to Jerusalem. At other times, Peter was quick to speak up and say the right and true thing. He did this in Matthew 16:16 when he confessed that Jesus was the Christ the Son of the living God. He also did this in Acts 2 when he preached the saving gospel on the Day of Pentecost.

Can we be like this? Can we speak up for the truth of God's word? We have the truth in God's word, the Bible. Will we stand for it and speak up and proclaim it to others? Or, will we be a coward and keep our mouths shut?

Quick to Repent

³¹ Simon, Simon, behold, Satan asked to have

you, that he might sift you as wheat: ³² but I made supplication for thee, that thy faith fail not; and do thou, when once thou hast turned again, establish thy brethren.
- Luke 22:31-32 -

It was a terrible thing that Peter did when he denied the Lord three times (Matthew 26:69-75; Mark 14:66-72; Luke 22:54-62). However, right after he did it (like David in the cave with Saul, 1 Samuel 24:5), Peter thought about Jesus' words and what he had done and wept bitterly (Mark 14:72). Jesus said he would pray for Peter's return (Luke 22:31-32) and Peter did turn again and come back to the Lord. He started this process of repentance quickly.

Can we be like this? Can we turn again quickly after our sin? We need to have a change of heart and a change of life (action) to come back to Jesus after sinning. The non-Christian needs to quickly repent and be baptized (Acts 2:28) and the erring Christians needs to quickly repent and pray (Acts 8:22).

Quick to Teach

¹⁴ But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and spake forth unto them, saying, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and give ear unto my words. ¹⁵ For these are not drunken, as ye suppose; see-