



"If you read Peter's sermon at Pentecost, he has some harsh words for those who participated in the crucifixion of Jesus, their long-awaited Messiah. How did those who had been faithfully waiting for so long miss the Messiah when He came in the flesh? Join us as we see how Jesus came and upended everything we thought we knew about living as God's chosen people."

INTRODUCTION ACTIVITY:

Who would you consider your favorite biblical hero? (Okay, after Jesus...)

MEMORY VERSE:

Acts 2:33

"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."

SCRIPTURE READING:

Acts 2:32-36

"32 This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. 33 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. 34 For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, "'The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand, 35 until I make your enemies your footstool. 36 Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.'"

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. In what ways did Jesus fit the Hebrew mindset of what the Messiah should be like? In what ways didn't He?
2. Whether Jewish people came to faith in Jesus as the Messiah or not, life for the Hebrew had fundamentally changed for them. How so?
3. What happens to God's chosen people, the Hebrews, that didn't receive Jesus as the Messiah?
4. Why do you think Jesus flipped everything around for His people? Couldn't He have just come as they desired? Why didn't He?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

1. Place yourself in the place of a Jewish person in the first century. What would you be looking for in a Messiah?
2. What would it take you (as a 1st century Jew) to believe that Jesus was the Messiah that you had been waiting for?
3. Why do you think many people in modern times have difficulty with believing Jesus is the Messiah?

CLOSING PRAYER ACTIVITY:

Invite someone to close the group in prayer.