

Chinese Martyrs Catholic Church Bible Sharing Program
Acts #2: From the Pentecost to Peter's First Arrest

ICSB: Ignatius Catholic Study Bible
 NJBC: New Jerome Biblical Commentary
 SBDC: Studium Biblicum Devotional Commentary
 SBCB: Studium Biblicum Chinese Bible
 CCC: Catechism of the Catholic Church
 JR: J. Ratzinger: Pilgrim Fellowship of Faith

A	<u>Area of Study:</u> Acts 2:14-4:31, Notes: A2/1-A2/	
B	<u>The Coming of the Holy Spirit</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart” ⇒ The Holy Spirit engraves the Law onto the human heart. This brings forth the seven gifts and fruits of the Spirit so that we may live freely and happily in the “law of the Spirit of life”. • The proclamation of the Old and the New Testament has similar preludes, but are different in spirit, and meaning: stone tablets ↔ human heart; slavery (bondage) ↔ freedom; death ↔ life; establishment of God’s chosen people, the Israelites ↔ establishment of Jesus’ Church as the New Israel. • The disturbance and grace brought about by the coming of the Holy Spirit in the NT: look at the Church after Vatican II (The New Pentecost). 	Acts 2:1-13 Ps 19:8 2Cor 3:46 CCC 1831-1832 Rm 8:2, ICSB 2:1 ICSB 2:2-3, Ex 19:16-19 Rm 7:6-10 Nm 11:24-25
C	<u>Peter's First Public Teaching</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The leadership of Peter ⇒ Does he possess the same authority as the Church’s first Pope? • Acts has recorded 6 preaching (GK: KERYGMA), 5 of which comes from Peter and one from Paul (2:14-36, 3:12-26, 4:8-12, 5:29-32, 10:34-43, 13:16-41). • Peter quoted Joel 2:28-32 to point out that Jesus’ righteousness, miracles, and signs are proofs that the time prophesized by Joel has come; the Messianic time has come. The coming of the Holy Spirit during the Pentecost has fulfilled Joel’s prophecy of the Spirit filling human heart. • Note how Peter interprets the OT from the perspective of “the New is hidden in the Old and the Old is revealed in the New” • Reaction of the crowd – “they were cut to the heart”. Peter listed 3 things that the people must do to return to God: repentance, baptism, and receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit. • “baptized in the name of Jesus” or in the name of the Holy Trinity? • Should children and infants be baptized? • “all who are far away” ⇒ our responsibilities of evangelization 	Acts 2:14-41 Research Team NAB ICSB Acts 2:16-22, 24-30, 34-36 Acts 2:37-41 ICSB ICSB 2:38, Mt 28:19 ICSB 2:29, Acts 16:15, 18:8, 2Cor 1:16, CCC 1252 Acts 2:39
D	<u>The New Church</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From Luke’s description of the early Church, one can see that the Church has sufficient space to embrace the differences in people, communities, and culture; however, all members must be united in the following 4 matters: following the teachings of the Pope (Tradition); living in unity within the faith community (“Koinonia” includes charity); the Eucharist; and prayer life. 	Acts 2:42-3:10 Acts 2:42 <u>God is Love</u> BXVI, #20 Phil 2:20, 4:4-5 Y2K Eucharist, p

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did the early Church practice “Communism”? “they spent much time together in the Temple”: How did the Temple of the Jews turn into the Temple of the NT – the Church? The healing of the one born blind has confirmed the Messianic time has come. 	25, JR p 64 Acts 2:44-45 BSP #3, Acts 4:32-35 Acts 2:46, ICSB, JR p 173-174 Acts 3:1-10 ICSB, Is 35:6 Lk 7:22
E	Peter's Second Public Teaching	Acts 3:11-26 Is 42,49,50,52
F	Peter's First Trial Before the Council	Acts 4:1-31 ICSB 4:1, 4:5-6 Acts 4:11, Ps 118:22, Mt 16:18, Eph 2:20 Acts 4:12, Jn 14:6, Gen 28:12, Jn 1:51 Acts 4:28, SH, Companion of Theology #133 CCC 600
G	Conclusion In this section, you have learned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The structure, operation, and teachings of the early Church testify the legitimacy of today's Catholic Church; the Church established by Jesus and passed down through succession, and apostolic, the one, holy, catholic Church of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit has engraved the new law on the tablet of the human heart, fulfilling the cruel law that was engraved on the stone tablets of the OT, established the New Israel – the Church. Acts confirmed the leadership of Peter in the new Church. He has inherited Jesus' key. His authority is equivalent to the first Pope. The faithful must repent, be baptized, and receive the Holy Spirit. The baptism of children and infants are in accordance with the teachings of the early Church. The Church cannot be without proper teachings that are in line with that of the apostles, a faith community of charity, Eucharist, and prayer life. The relationship between the Temple of the Israelites and today's Church. “Predestined” by God, that does not take away humans' freedom of choice. 	