

# *In search of authentic faith*

*Authenticity is found when we return **as closely to the original** we can find.*

This is precisely why we have been provided with the God Story - it is the definitive account of what the original looked like. Everything preceding the first coming of Christ tells the story of God's connection to the Jews through Abraham. The *Gospels* explain what occurred when Jesus was "born in time."

The "letters" - beginning with the book of Acts - tell the authentic story of everything that occurred *after Jesus was raised* from the dead and returned to heaven.

ACTS 2:37-47 paints a graphic picture of what was happening in the wake of His resurrection. As you read the passage, *underline the things that stand out to you*. What do these verses teach you about what authentic faith looks like?

*Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"*

*Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. "For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself."*

*And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation!"*

*So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.*

*They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.*

*Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles.*

*And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; and they began selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need.*

*Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.*

My observations about authenticity from this passage:

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