

# Welcome Home

(From the sermon dated September 20, 2015)

## Preparing for the Masses - The Study

*"God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us."*

**2 Corinthians 5:19-20** NIV

In Acts 2 the Church was born. It was brought to life by the introduction of the indwelling of the very Spirit of God! The Body of Christ was shaped by a stirring of the crowd (a loud sound from Heaven got the attention of the Israelites), the Holy Spirit set up residency in the hearts of the believers and a miraculous gift for ministry was given (speaking a language that had not been learned).

Immediately the church was given the gift to speak truth into the hearts of unbelievers in a language they could understand.

1. How many languages were there and why is this significant to the spreading of the Gospel? (Refer to **Acts 2:5-11**.)
2. What were the spiritual characteristics of the first church (**Acts 2:42-47**)?
3. What resulted from this spiritual community of believers (v. **47b**)?
4. What does the character of the church tell you about the purpose of the church and what the Lord blesses in ministry?

## Welcome Home – Preparing for the Masses, Sept. 23, 2015

5. Who did Jesus come to appeal to? (Refer to Luke 5:32; Romans 3:9; Romans 5:8.)

Read the story of the Samaritan woman whom Jesus met at the well (**John 4**).

6. How did Jesus get the conversation started?
7. What was her specific need?
8. How did Jesus handle the truth about her sin (v. **16-18**)?
9. What do you think is the significance of the dialogue on worship (vv. **20-26**)?
10. What were the results of this encounter with the Samaritan woman (vv. **39-42**)?
11. What was the language of Jesus during His ministry (Refer to **John 14:23-26; John 15:9-13**)?

*“You have made yourselves pure by obeying the truth. Now you can have true love for your brothers and sisters (In Christ). So love each other deeply – with all your heart. You have been born again. This new life did not come from something that dies. It came from something that cannot die. You were born again through God’s life-giving message that lasts forever.” – 1 Peter 1:22 NLT*