

BE A BRINGER

"40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus...." John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

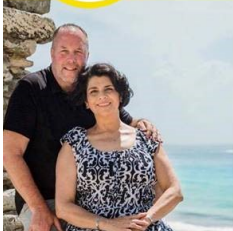
PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

"Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;...." I Samuel 12:23a



MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

Ed & Annita Hoagland | Mexico



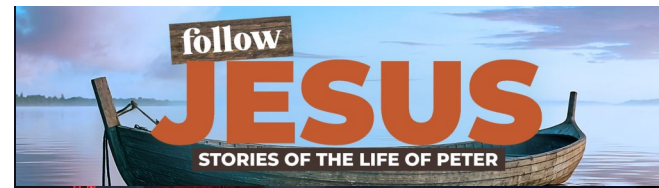
MINISTRY UPDATE

The Hoaglands have lived and ministered in Mexico City for 41 years. Praise God for all of the blessings of ministry. God has allowed the Hoaglands to plant 10 churches, the 7 missions that have become self-supporting churches, a Bible college with 140 graduates (currently 20 students), a Christian Elementary school with 40 students, 4 Manna feeding centers, and many evangelistic events.

Here are just some of the ways that the Lord is blessing the Hoagland's work:

- the Small Groups ministry is really taking off with around 200 people signed up for 33 small groups meeting throughout the week.
- The Manna Migrant team gave out 148 plates of food last week, along with clothing. During that time, 8 people made professions of faith.
- A local pastor, Luis Salazar preached to over 323 folks in attendance, with multiple salvation decisions.

Thank you for your support and your prayer for the Hoaglands ministry in Mexico.



Handout: 11/23/25

Study Date: 11/30/25

Build My Church: A Story Of Significance

Acts 2:41 recounts a significant moment in the early church—a day marked by transformation, community, and the power of God's word. The verse states: "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls." As we delve into this passage, let us reflect on the profound implications of receiving the Word and the act of baptism.

In Acts 2:41, we see the response of those who were present. The phrase "gladly received his word" captures the essence of true faith. It implies a receptive heart—one that actively welcomes and accepts the truth of the gospel. The individuals who heard Peter's preaching were not merely curious; they responded with joy and sincerity to the message of salvation. Gladness in receiving the Word is a key indicator of a transformative encounter with Christ. When we genuinely receive the Word of God, it changes our lives—not just in the moment, but eternally.

The act of baptism that follows the reception of the Word is monumental. It signifies outwardly what has transpired inwardly: a declaration of faith and an identification with the death and resurrection of Jesus. Baptism is not merely a ritual; it is an essential step of obedience that expresses public acknowledgment of one's commitment to Christ. As these new believers were submerged in water, they symbolized the washing away of sin and a new life in the Spirit. The Church today continues this practice as a vital component of the faith journey, encouraging believers to publicly declare their allegiance to Jesus.

Consider the rapid growth of the early church noted in this verse—"about three thousand souls." This remarkable increase is evidence of the power of the Gospel. The church was birthed not through self-promotion or marketing strategies, but through the authentic movement of the Holy Spirit in response to the proclamation of God's Word. This serves as a reminder of the importance of remaining committed to preaching the gospel as a priority. Today, the Church should seek to rekindle that same passion for evangelism, knowing that it is the truth of Christ that changes hearts and transforms lives.

In conclusion, Acts 2:41 challenges us to examine our own hearts and our response to the Word of God. Have we received His Word gladly? Are we willing to be obedient, following through in baptism and joining in fellowship with other believers? Let us be inspired by the early church's example to embrace the gift of the gospel, live out our faith, and share the good news with others. Just as three thousand souls were added to the church that day, may we seek to be vessels through which God can reach many more. May our hearts, like those early believers, be ready to receive, rejoicing in the transformative power of His Word.

Resource: Bible.art

KEY VERSE

Acts 2:41 (NKJV)

"Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them."

Read Acts 2:14-41 Every Day

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Acts 2:41

Introduction

1. What does Acts 2:14 teach us about the power of God's Word spoken through us? How many souls were saved *through* Peter in this verse?
2. What does paragraph 5 on pg. 1 call us to in terms of how we receive the Word? How would YOU answer the questions asked in this paragraph?

Tuesday: John 21:3; Philippians 4:13; Acts 2:14

Jesus Transforms I Can't Into I Can

3. What do Peter's actions in John 21:3 show us in regard to his commitment to the ministry Jesus had given him? Did he immediately pursue it?
4. I consider Philippians 4:13 one of the most crucial verses to apply to our "walk." What ability does Jesus bestow upon us *all* within this verse?

Wednesday: Luke 22:32-34

Jesus Transforms Your Weakness Into Your Strength: Peter's Pride

5. In Luke 22:33 Peter boasts that he is ready to go with Jesus "*both to prison and to death.*" What is revealed about Peter's pride in this statement?
6. In response to Peter's bold statement in Luke 22:33 What truth does Jesus reveal to Peter regarding his bold proclamation? (Luke 22:34)

Thursday: 1 Peter 5:6; Acts 2:21-24

Jesus Transforms Your Weakness Into Strength: Grow Humility

7. What valuable knowledge does God's Word bestow upon us in 1 Peter 5:6? Why should we "*humble ourselves*?"
8. How does God use Peter after his shame of denying Jesus around the firepit? How is Peter's "boldness" used to spread the Gospel? (Acts 2:21-24)
9. Where do you rank on the humility chart? If 1 is having none and 10 is having it abundantly, where do you place? Is there room for improvement?

Friday: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31; Matthew 16:18-19; Acts 2:40-41

Jesus Transforms The Ordinary Into The Extraordinary

10. What does 1 Corinthians 1:26 reveal to us in regard to those who are *called* by God? How *exactly* are they defined in this verse?
11. What does Matthew 16:18 teach us about who God will use to serve Him? Why is Peter, a lowly fisherman, the "*rock*" God builds His church on?
12. Peter was used by God to baptize some 3,000 souls according to Acts 2:41. How is God using YOU? In your church? In your community?