Not wanting the people to believe on Jesus, the rulers severely threatened Peter and John. "From now on you must speak to no man in Jesus' name."

Peter and John answered, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge.

For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard."

The Birth of the Church
A story from God’s Word, the Bible, is found in Acts 1-4

"The entrance of Your Words gives light." Psalm 119:130

Written by Edward Hughes
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Story 55 of 60

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After more threats, the rulers released Peter and John. God’s brave servants told their companions all about jail and court. Then they held a great prayer and praise meeting. Again, God’s Holy Spirit filled His people with power - and the infant church grew and grew.

God knows we have done bad things, which He calls sin. The penalty for sin is death.

God loves us so much He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on a Cross and pay our penalty. Jesus came alive and went back to Heaven! Now God can forgive our sins.

If you want to turn from your sins, say this to God: Dear God, I believe Jesus died for me and now lives again. Please come into my life and forgive my sins, so I can have new life now, and then be with You forever. Help me live for You as Your child. Amen. John 3:16

Read the Bible and talk to God every day!

When Jesus died, His frightened followers hid themselves. After Jesus rose from the dead, He showed Himself to His disciples. Jesus was alive! But - Jesus planned to leave them, to go back to Heaven where He had always lived with God, His Father.
It happened this way. About 120 followers of Jesus were praying together in a house. Suddenly, the house was filled with the sound of a rushing mighty wind.

Out in the streets, Jesus’ followers spoke languages they had never learned. Foreigners visiting Jerusalem heard the disciples talk about the wonderful works of God in many languages.

But Peter said, “These are not drunk ... this is what was spoken of by the prophet Joel ...” Peter then reminded them that many years before, God had promised the Holy Spirit would come to bless and help people.

Peter told the people they must turn away from their sins and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. “... and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit,” Peter said.

Around 3000 people obeyed. They joined the disciples as worshipers of Jesus. As time passed, more and more people were added to the church God started the day the Holy Spirit came.

The visitors were amazed. "Whatever could this mean?" they asked. "They are full of new wine," others mocked.

But Peter said, “These are not drunk ... this is what was spoken of by the prophet Joel ...” Peter then reminded them that many years before, God had promised the Holy Spirit would come to bless and help people.

The Holy Spirit brought His power into the lives of God’s people. One day, Peter and John went up to the temple together at the hour of prayer. A lame beggar sat outside the temple gate. He asked Peter and John for money.

The time was near! A few days after Jesus left, God the Holy Spirit came.

The Holy Spirit brought His power into the lives of God’s people. One day, Peter and John went up to the temple together at the hour of prayer. A lame beggar sat outside the temple gate. He asked Peter and John for money.

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