

Teaching Notes:

- Following Jesus' resurrection, everything we know about Simon Peter is going to change because he himself was about to change.
- Jesus' final words to his disciples: "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8).
- Peter, who not long before had been fearful of arrest, spoke up and gave the first sermon of the newborn church.
- Despite the risk that he would be arrested and possibly put to death, Peter proclaimed that Jesus was both Lord and Christ.
- With the Holy Spirit we have power, beyond anything we could imagine, to spread the gospel, help make new disciples, and transform the world for Christ.
- From Pentecost on, with the Spirit working through him, Peter was used by God to do amazing things.
- Preach the gospel at all times. Use words when necessary.
- By Acts 5, the Christian faith was spreading in remarkable ways. Peter was not just a rock, but something of a "rock star."
- They praised God and concluded, "So then God has enabled the Gentiles (you and I) to change their hearts and lives so that they might have new life".
- Today nearly a third of the world's population claim to be followers of Jesus.