

Where's Your Chair?

Acts 2 37-47



Though I am poor and needy, the Lord cares for me.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O my God, make no delay.
Psalm 40:18-19

Praising:

What courage, power and grace that youthful Church displayed! To those of every tribe and race they witnessed unafraid, and filled with the Spirit they broke their bread and prayed.

Reading:

Acts 2:37-47

The people respond

With thousands of people being baptized, the scale and sincerity of the response to Peter's sermon still makes for startling reading. Peter goes on to paint a picture of the early Church at worship and at prayer and busily engaged in acts of Christian service. The fact that the new Christians were continuing to meet in the Temple suggests that there was no immediate severance from their

old religious practices. It would also suggest that spiritual relations within the Jewish family remained good, in spite of some fairly sudden new differences. But it is the language of salvation that pervades the fall-out from Peter's sermon. Those who heard it responded dramatically, as though they saw their need for God in a very urgent way, and as though a real means of spiritual rescue was being extended to them.

Listening:

Praying:

We pray Lord for a stirring of spiritual life in your Church

- for a sense that we all have a spiritual need and that Christ alone is the answer
- for a longing to meet together in the Spirit for worship, for prayer and for service
- for a heart to reach out to those around us with the love and joy of Jesus

Father: besides everything else it means to belong to your family of faith, I praise you today for the salvation Christ has won for me, that he has pulled me out of sin, to life everlasting. Amen

Doing:

Friday, 08 April 2016