

For the week of September 18, 2016
Pastor: Scott Grant

Cut to the Heart

Second week in the series "Sent: Living the Mission of the Church"

Acts 2:1-41

Jesus has poured out the Holy Spirit on his people and in his people so that they might be flooded with God's love. What then if we experience the love of God more like a trickle than a flood? What if even the trickle seems to have dried up? What if we're unsure whether God loves us? The Spirit of God, in addition to flooding our hearts with the love of God, first inspired the word of God and now illuminates the word of God. How will the word of God in Acts 2 affect us?

Discussion Questions:

1. How have you experienced the love of God?
2. What sort of struggles have you encountered in understanding and appreciating God's love for you?
3. How do you identify with this quote from Ann Voskamp: "If He [God] truly, deeply loves me, why does He withhold that which I believe will fully nourish me? Why do I live in this sense of rejection, of less than, of pain? Does He not want me to be *happy*?"
4. Reflect on the following implications of Peter's sermon in Acts 2: In view of our sins, we are guilty of crucifying Jesus Christ, the Lord of the world, but not only are we forgiven for doing so, his crucifixion is also the means by which we are forgiven. Not only is our crucifying the Lord the means by which we are forgiven, the very one we crucified also pours out the Holy Spirit on us and in us so that we might experience God's love for us.