

- Someone who is really searching?
- Someone who is really hurting?
- Someone who is spiritually disconnected?

Psalm 27:8

You have said, “Seek my face.” My heart says to you, “Your face, Lord, do I seek.”

For 100% of us to ask the question:

Am I living CORAM DEO – realizing that that God is with us in life-changing, eternity-altering, and joy-sustaining ways?

God will meet you **where you are** in order to take you where He **wants you to be.**

Acts 2: Patterns & Paths

Acts 2 Background:

- Festival (Pentecost; Weeks)
- Holy Spirit fills apostles
- Speaking in tongues
- Christ-centered proclamation: Person & work

Acts 2:22-24,36-37

“Men of Israel, **hear these words**: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— 23 this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you **crucified** and killed by the hands of lawless men. 24 God **raised him up**, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it ... 36 Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him **both Lord and Christ**, this Jesus whom you crucified.” Now when they heard this they were **cut to the heart**, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, **what shall we do?**”

1) Recognition of Jesus

Philippians 2:5b-11

... Christ Jesus, **6** who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, **7** but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. **8** And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. **9** Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, **10** so that

at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, **11** and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Colossians 1:15-20

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. **16** For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. **17** And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. **18** And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. **19** For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, **20** and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

2) Only God—as revealed in Jesus—matters.

Acts 2:38

And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

3) Embrace (or return to) the life power pattern

- Crucifixion to Resurrection
- Baptism: under & out (dying & rising)

Dying → Rising

Shift → Gift

Exhale → Inhale

Put off → Put on

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Acts 2:39-40

For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.” **40** And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation.”

4) Live with a profound sense of calling.

- Personal privilege
- Not of this world

3 Types of Peace & Fulfillment:

- The kind you buy in bottles & stuff
- From believing what you want to believe
- From holy disturbance into holy presence

Acts 2:41-42a

So those who **received his word** were **baptized**, and there were added that day about three thousand souls. 42 And they **devoted** themselves ...

Baptism:

- Naming ceremony
- Picture of what has been done for us
- Picture of what is now ours in Christ

5) Be **devoted ... (“continued steadfastly ...”)**

- Not “feelism”, emotions or impulse

Acts 2:42-47

And they devoted themselves to the **apostles' teaching** and the **fellowship**, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. 43 And **awe** came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44 And all who believed were **together** and had all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, **as any had need**. 46 **And day by day**, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 **praising God** and having favor with all the people. And **the Lord added** to their number day by day those who were being **saved**.

3 Priorities/Aspects of Devotion:

- A) Find **fullness** (ongoing) in the **fullness of God**

Fresh Initiatives (pp. 19-25)

- Lord's Supper
- Worship @ RBCC
- Counseling ministry
- Young Adults

- B) Forge **fellowship** in the **family** of God

Fresh Initiatives:

- Lord's Supper → unity; reconciliation
- Connect Groups → 300
- Discipleship → +staffing & infrastructure

C) Follow Jesus in ministry & mission

Fresh Initiatives:

- Serve Team → 500 new
- 2nd Spanish Congregation
- Mission partnerships
 - Coffee
- Giving
 - Almsgiving
- Lost, disconnected, overlooked

Acts 2:36-37

Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified." **37** Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"