

Acts 2:14

But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words.

This was the beginning of the very first sermon after the Holy Spirit fell upon the disciples. Afterwards 3000 came to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. So why do things like this not happen today? If you read the rest of Acts chapter 2, you will read of Peter quoting scripture left and right, as God's words poured from his mouth like rivers of living water.

† **Luke 8:15** *But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.*

It is the words of Jesus that saves. However, we tend to water down the word with all sorts of things. We have concerts, and movies and plays and slide shows, and PowerPoint presentations and anything else we can think of. We start putting more emphasis on all these other things and start letting God's word take a back seat to it all.

"Yea, but how else am I supposed to get people to church without these things?"

I don't read anywhere in the bible where Jesus said, "Bring the lost to church" instead,

† **And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."** Mark 16:15

Jesus or the disciples did not have any special music as they went around preaching the gospel. No big shows in the Roman Arena, no Internet, no TV, no movies, no plays, no musicians. No, all they did was preach the word of God.

However, we think we need all of these things in order for people to listen to the gospel. Maybe if we stopped trying all these different things and just preached the gospel, ***Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. Acts 2:41***