

## THREE THOUSAND SOULS Acts 2:37–47

June 21, 2020

### CONNECT

1. Many of the headlines throughout the COVID-19 pandemic have suggested that by not meeting publicly churches have “closed.” Now, of course, those headlines speak of churches “re-opening” as they return to public rhythms. Why might there be the easy assumption that by not meeting publicly churches are “closed”? What has been your own perspective on this?

### CELEBRATE

2. Read Acts 2:42–47. Highlight the nature of this very first church that develops.
3. Read Acts 13:1–3. What does it say about the heart of Jesus that the leaders mentioned within the church of Antioch were from a variety of ethnic backgrounds? Also, note that the text of verse 1 says “there were in the church at Antioch” rather than “there were at the church in Antioch.” Why might this distinction matter?
4. What is the significance of Acts 2:41 for how we think about the church? Hint: Think about what the church is *not* and then what it *is*.

### CONTRIBUTE

5. Acts 1:8 finds Jesus telling His disciples to go and be witnesses of Him “in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” What does this mean for you?
6. Building on the previous question, New Hope Church is committed to being a Christ-centered community for all peoples, moving toward Jesus and taking others with us. In your own words characterize what this means for us as a church family and for you as part of that church family. Also, what are ways you can live out the specific pieces of this statement in the days ahead, both personally and with your Life Group?