



DBR

WITH THE EDGE

June 13 – John 20

Re-read John 20:29

Thomas was a follower of Jesus and a disciple. He knew a lot about Jesus and the Bible, but he still doubted him. He didn't believe that Jesus rose again until he saw him in person. Jesus turned and said that people are even more blessed by him if they would believe even though they don't see him. We live 2000 years after Jesus lived, and we have never seen him.

What makes it harder about living now?

June 14 – John 21

Re-read John 21:17

Peter denied Jesus three times before his death. Jesus asked Peter if he loved him three times after his resurrection. Jesus did this on purpose, and he wanted Peter to do the work he was called to. We sin too, and we must ask ourselves often:

Do I love Jesus? Answer that question and give a reason why you think that is true.

June 15 – Acts 1

Re-read Acts 1:8

Jesus' final words to the disciples were memorable ones. He told them to go out into all the world and be his "witnesses" (people who have seen something, and are to tell of it). *The Acts of the Apostles* is a book that is filled with accounts of the disciples doing just that. How are you continuing this today?

June 16 – Acts 2:1-13

Re-read Acts 2:4

Many gifts of the Holy Spirit to the Christians are no longer needed in the church today. This gift of tongues was given here at the beginning to prove that the Holy Spirit was really there, and that their message was truly God's message. The people were speaking, and many others listening in their own languages heard them and understood. It would be like you going to a big city, and the people who only knew Spanish / Chinese / French / Japanese could all hear you, and understand in their own language. It was a miracle! What are some other miraculous gifts that we don't use anymore?

June 17 – Acts 2:14-47

Re-read Acts 2:22-24

Peter begins preaching a sermon. He talks about the resurrection of Jesus. He reminds them of Psalm 16, and the fact that David couldn't have been talking about himself because he died and didn't rise. Why is the resurrection so important?

Where would Christians be without it?

June 18 – Acts 3

Re-read 3:6

There is a man who cannot walk, who is sitting at the gate to the temple. He asks Peter for money, but Peter gives him something else (in the name of Jesus). He heals him! That was better than any amount of money Peter could have given him!

What do you have to give people that is better than money?

What message? And in whose name do you give it?

June 19 – Acts 4:1-22

Re-read Acts 4:12

Peter is preaching again, and he makes a bold claim. Most people today think that there are many ways to heaven, or that "being a good person" is all you need. But Peter says there is no other person who can save other than Jesus.

How does this help you talk to people about Jesus?

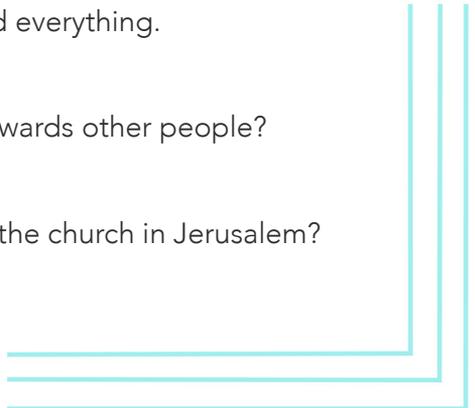
June 20 – Acts 4:23-37

Re-read Acts 4:32

Most churches don't look like the church in the Jerusalem in the time of the apostles. They loved each other so much that they were willing to share anything and everything.

How can you grow in your love towards other people?

What can you do to be more like the church in Jerusalem?



June 21 – Acts 5:1-16

Re-read Acts 5:3-5

God takes honesty very seriously. He kills this couple for lying to the apostles (more importantly to the Holy Spirit) about what they were giving and how much they sold their land for.

Are there any areas of your life where you tend to be dishonest?

How can you change that today?

June 22 – Acts 5:17-42

Re-read Acts 5:29

When it comes down to it, followers of Jesus are called to obey him. Elsewhere in the Bible, we are commanded to obey authorities. This is true! But if those authorities tell us to do things that make us disobey God, you have to follow God.

In what ways might you get in trouble at school/sports/other activities for obeying what the Bible says?

June 23 – Acts 6

Re-read 6:9-10

Stephen was a man who spoke boldly about Jesus, and the people didn't like him for it. His words were from God.

When you speak about God, wouldn't it make sense to use his words (from the Bible)?

How can you do this in talking to non-Christians?

June 24 – Acts 7:1-19

In the beginning of chapter 7, Stephen preaches this sermon about how God worked in the Old Testament.

Which characters that Stephen references teach us something about God? Pick one and write about what aspect of God is revealed in that story.

June 25 – Acts 7:20-43

Re-read Acts 7:32-33

Today, people talk about God, use his name, and treat his people like HE is no big deal. Stephen reminds the people that God is not someone you want to mess with.

How should you fear God more than you do now?

What will that change about your life if you fear him more and give him more respect?

June 26 – Acts 7:44-60

Re-read Acts 7:60

This is the climax of the story of Stephen. He has finished preaching the gospel and the truth of Jesus as the fulfillment of God's plan, and the people decide to kill him. You would think that Stephen would be mad at them for this. But he prays and asks God to not hold his murder against them. He is forgiving the people who are killing him!

Who are some people you need to forgive? (They couldn't have done anything worse than these people!) Remember, be quick to forgive them!

