More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: ABaptx2017

Text: Acts 10:34-43

34 Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, 35 but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. 36 You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. 37 That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: 38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. 39 We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; 40 but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, 41 not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42 He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. 43 All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Primary Expressed Intelligence - {MWD} Body {D2} Word

Math - I, Music - I, People - I/S

| Smarts | Images in the text/ interesting exegesis | Illustrations | SFX |
|--------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Word - Verbal/Linguistic | Commanded to preach and to testify - I would say they were compelled to do so by what they had witnessed. How could you not tell someone what you had seen? | God's love is now loose in the world. | J. B. Phillips, <i>Your God Is Too Small</i> (New York: Macmillian, 1961). J.B. Phillips encourages Christians to redefine their understanding of a creator without labels or earthly constraints and instead search for a meaningful concept of God. |
| Eye - Visual/Spatial | | | |
| Math - Logical/Mathematical | | The significance of Jesus' resurrection for Peter is not that there is life after death, but that Jesus is proved to be Lord of all | |

| Body - Kinesthetic | Forgiveness = Greek aphesis or "release" | and Judge of the living and the dead. It's like in a disaster movie: Female lead: OMG! Aliens have just vaporized all of Washington, DC! Do you realize what this means? Dimwitted comic relief: Yeah, the Redskins are going to have to play all their games away! Female lead: What? NO! It means this could be the end of civilization as we know it! DCR: Oh, well, yeah, that, too. In this passage, Peter speaks of forgiveness as a release from sin or what binds. Sometimes, binding can be a comfort - for example, babies fresh from the oven who remember the snug confines of the womb or a dog who gets jittery when thunder and lightning are around. Other times, binding is just that - being tied up or tied down and negatively confined. Perhaps the negative confinement derives from not recognizing one's outgrowth of the positive? | This could be tricky and you may need to get special volunteers for it and work with them before- Have two people sit very close next to each other; encourage them to snuggle and describe how it feels to be so close to someone they like, respect, love, etc. Then, without changing position, have them imagine the other person is someone with whom they have no relationship or a sketchy relationship. How does sitting this closely to that person feel? |
|--------------------|--|--|--|
| | | confinement derives from not recognizing | How does sitting this closely to that person |

| | | | Does forgiveness feel more like snuggling with someone you like or not having to snuggle with someone you don't like? |
|------------------------|--|--|--|
| Musical | | See if you can convert Peter's testimony into an English sonnet. That's three quatrains followed by a couplet, rhyme scheme as follows: abba cddc effe gg | |
| | | I think it's supposed to | |
| | | be in iambic pentameter. | |
| | | Good luck. | |
| Natural | Foundation is implied in this witness - Jesus who was crucified and is resurrected is the foundation for peace. | Types of foundations used in construction. Stones are listed here but are not given high marks because they need to be arranged in a way that does not allow water to seep in. What foundations do we trust? What foundations need some renovation? What foundations need to be taken out and replaced? | Bring in some large stones and build a foundation in your worship space. Place tables, chairs, etc on them and ask for a volunteer to come take a seat. OR (something that does not involve accidents and insurance) Take some pictures of stone walls and project them as you speak of Jesus as the foundation for peace. |
| People - Interpersonal | God shows no partiality except to reconciliation and forgiveness. Jesus' death was considered a failure by humanity. God did not see it that way and resurrected him to show us what God thought. This means that God is exercising | Commentators say this passage shows a paradigm shift, if you will, for Peter, but also for the direction of the early church. The Resurrection of Jesus is the critical event that creates that shift. Similar event/shift combinations in history, for better or worse? | In the resurrection, God did not say "Told you so!" but "Not so fast, there." Gather in groups and discuss a time when you could easily have said the former. Did you? Why or why not? Discuss how God could have dealt with |

| | judgment against our opinion but with forgiveness for it rather than condemnation. | 9/11; fall of the Berlin Wall; Selma; Hiroshima; Pearl Harbor; Gandhi's hunger strike; 1919 Bolshevik Revolution; Boston massacre; etc. | humanity's rejection of Jesus in his crucifixion. Why does God choosing resurrection make a difference? |
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| Self - Intrapersonal | "Boundaries are pushed back and divisions are crossed as we respond to God's calls and dreams about neighbors and strangers and enemies. We begin to realize in new ways that the family given to us by God's grace extends beyond people who look, think, and live as we do." "Brian Peterson, WP | This is Peter's 30 sec elevator witness - what is yours? | Take a blank piece of paper and write the name "Jesus" in the middle of it. Then, write your name next to it somewhere. Draw a line to Jesus, connecting them. Then, write the names of those you identify as family. Connect those as well. Then, think about the people whose names you have listed; how are they connected? Draw lines between them. Now, add names of neighbors, co-workers, and others who did not make the first cut. Draw lines of connection to them, too. Eventually, you will wind up with a web of lines all over your paper; some will connect in the middle with Jesus, some will run along the edges, but they will all be connected. This is the peace that Jesus proclaims - a net of support. |