



The Birth of the Church

¹“On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. ²Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. ³Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. ⁴And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability. ⁵At that time there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem. ⁶When they heard the loud noise, everyone came running, and they were bewildered to hear their own languages being spoken by the believers. ⁷They were completely amazed. ‘How can this be?’ they exclaimed. ‘These people are all from Galilee, ⁸and yet we hear them speaking in our own native languages! ⁹Here we are—Parthians, Medes, Elamites, people from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, the province of Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, and the areas of Libya around Cyrene, visitors from Rome ¹¹(both Jews and converts to Judaism), Cretans, and Arabs. And we all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done!’ ¹²They stood there amazed and perplexed. ‘What can this mean?’ they asked each other. ¹³But others in the crowd ridiculed them, saying, ‘They’re just drunk, that’s all!’”

Acts 2:1-13

The Miracle Of Pentecost

1. The _____

Jewish Feasts:

- _____ Lev. 23:4-5
- _____ Lev. 23:9-14
- _____ Ex. 23, 24 Lev. 16, Num. 28, Deut. 16

2. The _____

- _____ v. 2
- _____ v. 3
- _____ v. 4

3. The _____

- _____ v. 6-7
- _____ v. 8-12
- _____ v. 13

Question: Could It Happen Again?

Memory Verse

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Acts 1:8

MY NEXT STEP IS TO . . .

- Surrender control of my life to Jesus Christ for the first time
- Memorize Acts 1:8
- Accept the Acts Challenge: Read a chapter of Acts a day for the next 28 days
- Get the most out of today’s teaching by attending my Life Group



Discussion Questions - Week #8

LIFEGROUPS

QUICK REVIEW

Thinking back to the sermon this weekend, "The Birth of the Church", summarize the main point in a sentence or two.

Was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Is there any practical step you plan on taking this week in response to the message?

GETTING STARTED

- A.W. Tozer once said, "The idea of the Spirit held by the average church member is so vague as to be nearly nonexistent." Why do you think that is so?

- What comes to your mind when you think of the Holy Spirit?

- Why do you think there is so much controversy in churches about the Holy Spirit?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Read John 16:5-15. What stands out to you in this passage?

What does Jesus state are the different roles of the Holy Spirit?

If we're being honest, many of us would rather have Jesus standing before us rather than the Holy Spirit inside of us. Why do you think Jesus considers it better that He go?

In verse seven, why do you think Jesus says, "unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you"?

What is the Holy Spirit been teaching you lately?

2. The gifts God has given us by the Spirit come with the expectation that we will use them to play a role in God's kingdom. In 1 Corinthians 12:4-26, Paul uses the analogy of the human body to describe what it looks like when we all play our part. As you read this passage, what are some of the things that catch your attention regarding the various roles?

Have you ever felt like some gifts are more important than others? If so, which ones?

What do you think is the biggest reason some people aren't using the gifts the Spirit has given them?

How did you discover your spiritual gifting?

How do you sense you are called to serve using the gift(s) the Spirit has given you?

FOR PRACTICE

In Galatians 5:16, Paul says, "So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh." Walking in the Spirit speaks of a continual God-consciousness and awareness of His presence. One means for cultivating such an awareness in the busyness of our everyday lives is the practice of solitude. Through solitude, we are enabled to hone our awareness of His presence in the quiet spaces of life so that we can better discern His presence amid our busyness. Consider setting aside regular times to turn off the devices that distract you and spend time in solitude to cultivate greater awareness of the Spirit's presence in your life.

SHARE IT

Is there anything you heard or learned in the weekend message or Life Group this week that you want to share with someone you know?

PRAYER REQUESTS

☞ Pray for our ERBC-supported missionaries in India ministering amongst Muslim communities. Pray for them as they study the bible, pray for, and serve those in their community. Pray also for favor with their visa applications.