

GROWTH + GROUPS

NAVIGATE LIFE TOGETHER

Maranatha Chapel Sermon Based Study Guide

SB 05.28.23

FRESH WIND, FRESH FIRE: ACTS 2:1-15

Receiving the Message and Relating to the Study

What insights, principles, or observations stood out to you from this week’s message? Discuss with your group.

Forty days after the Resurrection, Jesus left His disciples with the instruction, “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift My Father promised, which you have heard Me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days, you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit” (Acts 1:4-5). For ten more days the believers prayed together and prepared. Then, on the Jewish Feast of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit suddenly came. This week we celebrated the Feast of Pentecost, and many received fresh wind and fire from the Holy Spirit. Pastor Daniel tells us the Holy Spirit is the “Engine” of the Christian believer and He comes with “dynamite” life changing power. As we get into this study, imagine yourself as one of the believers who experienced fresh wind and fire from the Holy Spirit. Ask God to bring this scene alive for you. Let us get into our study.

As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.

1. What struck you most from this week’s sermon?

Digging Deeper in God’s Word: Life Lessons

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ ACTS 2:1-3

As the Jews in Jerusalem were celebrating the Feast of Pentecost, the disciples were all in one accord and in one place. They were gathered sharing the same heart, the same love for God, and the same trust in His promise. Suddenly a roar exploded from heaven like a violent, rushing mighty wind and filled the house where they were sitting. Just as suddenly, they saw what looked like flames of fire that separated and came to rest on each person there.

1. During Pentecost, Jews would gather in Jerusalem to celebrate the covenant God made with Moses. Why is it significant that the Holy Spirit came on the day of Pentecost? (Jeremiah 31:31-34; Romans 7:6; 2 Corinthians 3:6)
2. Read Psalm 133:1-3. Oil often symbolizes the Holy Spirit in scripture. What do you think happens when believers come together in unity sharing the same heart, the same love for God, and the same trust in His promise?
3. In both the Hebrew and Greek languages, the word for spirit is the same word for breath or wind. Read Exodus 14:21 and Job 38:1. How was wind used in these passages?
4. Read John 3:8. We cannot comprehend or control the Spirit, but we can experience His effect. Describe some of the effects of wind. What do you think are some effects of the Holy Spirit? (Romans 12:2)

“PROMISES” in 2023

5. How might the Christian life be like that of a sailboat, powered by the ever-changing winds?
6. As in Exodus 3, fire often symbolizes the presence of God in scripture. Leviticus 6:8-9, says to not let the fire go out. How might a believer today kindle a bright, hot, and passionate “fire” for Jesus?

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ ACTS 2:4-17

1. Why do you think the Christians need to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

One of the most important ministries of the Holy Spirit is that of filling the believer. The filling of the Spirit gives the believer power to live the Christian life. To be filled with the Holy Spirit implies freedom for Him to occupy every part of our lives, guiding and controlling us.

2. After the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit, what miracle immediately followed? (Acts 2:4-6) What was proclaimed? (Acts 2:11). What benefit might this outpouring have in advance the Gospel?
3. What were the different responses of the multitude witnessing the outpouring of the Holy Spirit? (Acts 2:6-13).
4. Describe a time you may have experienced an outpouring of the Holy Spirit? How did the “multitude” or others respond to this out pouring?
5. Some of the multitude made fun of the disciples and suggested they had too much to drink, but Peter raised his voice and stated, “These people are not drunk, as you suppose.” Read Ephesians 5:18. Compare and contrast being under the influence of alcohol and being under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

Applying God’s Word

What did you learn from this study and how does this personally speak to you? Discuss with your group.

In Acts 19, Paul discovered a pocket of disciples in Ephesus. He asked them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” (Acts 19:2). He must have recognized the lack of power in their Christian life. They had received John’s baptism, but they had never heard of the Holy Spirit. Paul then laid hands on them, and the Holy Spirit came upon them. They then receive the power of the Holy Spirit and God brought a great revival to Ephesus.

1. If you were to meet with Paul today, would he recognize a lack of power in your Christian walk? Those who ask will receive, those who seek, will find, those who knock, the door will be open. Ask Him to fill you with His life changing dynamite power.
2. Scripture suggests “to be filled” is not a one-time event. “Be filled” literally translates to “Be Being Filled.” What changes in your Christian walk will enable you to be filled more often?
3. How might you use the power of the Holy Spirit to advance the Gospel?

“PROMISES” in 2023

PRAYER

Thank God for the gift of the Holy Spirit and the victory we have over the enemy through Jesus. Ask the Holy Spirit to come, fill you, and bring a fresh wind and a fresh fire. Ask the Holy Spirit to blow through the caverns of your heart that kindles a bright, hot, and passionate fire for Jesus.

“And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting” (Acts 2:2).