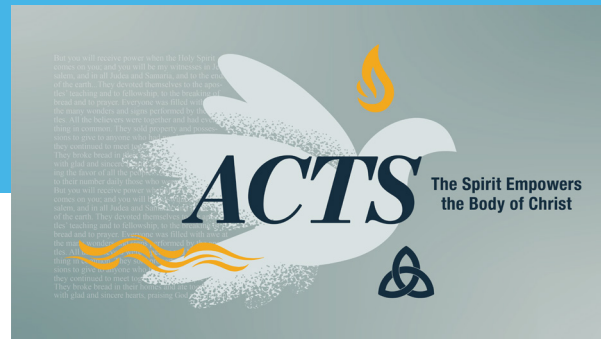


Discussion Questions

March 3, 2024

Acts 2:1-4 - Why Pentecost Changed Everything



1. Read Acts 2:1-4

Share your own feelings surrounding the idea of the Holy Spirit filling people like what we see here. What fears or apprehensions do you or have you had?

2. Read Galatians 3:1-5

Paul makes a strong assumption that all of the believers had experienced the Holy Spirit working in power in their lives, and uses that as the evidence of them coming to Christ. Could we make the same assumptions today among most Christians? If not, what has changed and why?

3. Read Exodus 31:1-5

In what ways do you think the Spirit filling him made a difference?

In what ways does God fill us today that are not just the big ones of healing, prophecy, etc?

4. How can we actively orient ourselves to be more regularly empowered by the Holy Spirit?

5. What are the things we do that make it more difficult to respond to the nudging of the Holy Spirit?

6. In what ways you have been challenged by this message? What does it look like to apply it?

Acts 2:1–4 (NIV)

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Joel 2:28–29 (NLT)

Then, after doing all those things, I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your old men will dream dreams, and your young men will see visions. In those days I will pour out my Spirit even on servants - men and women alike.

Isaiah 44:3 (NIV)

I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.

Jeremiah 31:31–33 (NLT)

"The day is coming," says the Lord, "when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and Judah. This covenant will not be like the one I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand and brought them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant, though I loved them as a husband loves his wife," says the Lord. "But this is the new covenant I will make with the people of Israel after those days," says the Lord. "I will put my instructions deep within them, and I will write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.

Acts 2:1 (CSB)

When the day of Pentecost had arrived,

Acts 2:1 (YLT)

When the day of Pentecost was being fulfilled.

NT Wright - Acts for Everyone

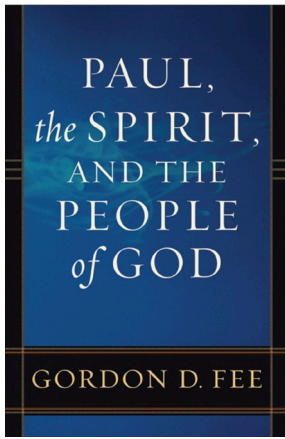
When the Israelites arrived at Mount Sinai, Moses went up the mountain, and then came down again with the law. Here, Jesus has gone up into heaven in the ascension, and—so Luke wants us to understand—he is now coming down again, not with a written law carved on tablets of stone, but with the dynamic energy of the law, designed to be written on human hearts.

Tim Keller

There's a sense in which the Old Testament people of God became the New Testament people of God because down came the Holy Spirit with a transforming power that had never been known heretofore. In a certain sense, the people of God are getting rebooted, relaunched, here on Pentecost. It's the fullness of the Spirit.

Galatians 3:1–5 (NIV)

You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by believing what you heard? Are you so foolish? After beginning by means of the Spirit, are you now trying to finish by means of the flesh? Have you experienced so much in vain—if it really was in vain? So again I ask, does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you by the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard?



Gordon Fee - Paul, the Spirit, and the People of God

Notice he does not put it our way, “Were you saved, or justified, and so on?” His question works precisely because of the experiential nature of their having received the Spirit, as the present-tense question in v. 5 makes certain: “He who supplies you with the Spirit and performs miracles among you, is this by faith or by doing the law?” For Paul the Spirit is the crucial element to all of Christian life; therefore his argument stands or falls on their recalling their own experience of conversion at the beginning in terms of the Spirit.

Acts 2:1-3 (NIV)

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.

Ezekiel 37:9 (NASB 2020)

The Lord God says this: “Come from the four winds, breath, and breathe on these slain, so that they come to life.

Ezekiel 37:14 (NASB 2020)

And I will put My Spirit within you and you will come to life...

John 3:8 (NLT)

The wind blows wherever it wants. Just as you can hear the wind but can’t tell where it comes from or where it is going, so you can’t explain how people are born of the Spirit.

Luke 3:16 (NLT)

I baptize you with water; but someone is coming soon who is greater than I am—so much greater that I’m not even worthy to be his slave and untie the straps of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Acts 2:4 (NASB 2020)

And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with different tongues, as the Spirit was giving them the ability to speak out.

Exodus 31:1–5 (NLT)

Then the Lord said to Moses, “Look, I have specifically chosen Bezalel. I have filled him with the Spirit of God, giving him great wisdom, ability, and expertise in all kinds of crafts. He is a master craftsman, expert in working with gold, silver, and bronze. 5 He is skilled in engraving and mounting gemstones and in carving wood. He is a master at every craft!

2 Kings 13:14 (NLT)

When Elisha was in his last illness, King Jehoash of Israel visited him and wept over him. “My father! My father! I see the chariots and charioteers of Israel!” he cried.