

# THE SPIRIT POURED OUT



Series Guide 11

Use this guide for deeper discipleship as we journey together through

GOD'S MAGNIFICENT WORD



## MEMORY VERSE: ACTS 1:8

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."



# REFLECTION QUESTIONS

How does the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost change the disciples' lives?

What can we learn from the fellowship of the Apostles? How does it challenge our practices of Church today?

How does the power which God offers differ from the power this world offers?

How have you experienced the gift of the Holy Spirit in your own life? In what ways can you allow the Holy Spirit to lead you in your day-to-day life, as the early disciples did?

The Holy Spirit empowered Peter and the other disciples to tell God's story of salvation. Have you experienced empowerment from God when sharing your faith with someone? How can we prepare for God to use us in this way?

# CORINTHIANS 12:4-12

#### SERMON NOTES

## FAMILY CORNER

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Paul shares a lot about spiritual gifts in several of his letters to the churches (Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12-14, Ephesians 4). Spiritual gifts are given by the Holy Spirit to individuals SPECIFICALLY for the following purposes: to build up the church, serve one another, and to fulfill the church's mission in the world. What spiritual gifts has the Holy Spirit given members of your family for these specific purposes? Encourage your children in recognizing and using these gifts to grow God's Church and share His love.



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# REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Read 1 Cor. 12:4-6. In this section, Paul makes it clear that there is one God, one Lord, and one Spirit at work in us. Why do you think he emphasizes unity here?

According to v. 7, to whom has the Holy Spirit given special gifts? What are their purpose?

What spiritual gifts does Paul mention in 1 Cor. 12? What other gifts does the Bible mention? (read Colossians 4:12; Ephesians 1:16; 2 Timothy 1:3; 1 Corinthians 12:7-11; Corinthians 12:27-30; 1 Peter 4:9-11; Romans 12:4-8; and Ephesians 4:11-13 for more info)

What strategies can we use to identify our own spiritual gifts?

If you've identified your own spiritual gifts, what are they? How have you used them to serve the Church and build God's Kingdom?

Is one spiritual gift better than any other? What symbol does Paul use to teach us about how our gifts fit together?

# ACTS 2:1-13

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When we repent and believe in Christ, we receive the Holy Spirit as a gift. The Holy Spirit's power gives us boldness to proclaim the Good News to the ends of the earth! Identify a person or family that needs to hear the Good News of Jesus. Pray together for these people, and for you to receive the Spirit's boldness for sharing Christ with them.



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# REFLECTION QUESTIONS

How did God first get your attention? Was it through one significant experience like Paul or was it more subtle?

Who initiated Paul's conversion? What does this say about God's active role in our lives?

What does conversion mean? For Paul it began as a change in his thinking, but did it stop there? If not, what is complete conversion?

Paul was blinded for 3 days before he regained his sight. Why might the passage of time be important in our ability to see things differently?

In Acts 9:10-16 a man named Ananias was asked by God to go to Saul/Paul and restore his sight. What struggle did Ananias have with this task? In what ways might we struggle with seeing someone as a new creation in Christ today?

# 1 CORINTHIANS 1:1-9

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As followers of Jesus, we are all part of his body, the Church with a capital C. Paul reminds all believers how important it is for us to work together and be united as Jesus' body. How can you work together and be united with other disciples in your neighborhood, in your school, in your community?

No lesson video this week. Instead, experience this community at Kingdom Come, our all-church Pentecost Celebration this Sunday June 8 from 10am-2pm at Jacobus Park!



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# REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Read 1 Cor. 1:4-9. What impression do you get of the Christians at Corinth? What do the people in your community have in common with the Corinthians? Do you feel like the thanksgiving in this section describes you? Why or why not?

We also see here that despite their spiritual gifts, the church in Corinth has allowed itself to become divided. What specific conflict divides the church there? For more on Apollos, see Acts 18:24-28. What is the problem or danger with identifying so closely with a certain church leader or faction like we read about here? Why are cliques and divisions in the church so damaging?

How is unity in the church like, or perhaps unlike, other kinds of unity? Why is unity in the church important? How do we live into the spiritual unity that is already a reality in Christ?

What is the difference between unity and uniformity? Paul encourages the church to be "united in mind and thought" (1:10). How does sharing in the mind of Christ differ from having all the same thoughts and ideas? How can we encourage people to share in Christ's mind and represent Christ's character and love?

# ACTS 9:1-9

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In Acts 9, we read about the conversion of Paul. Share with your family, your personal story of conversion.

When did you decide to follow Jesus? After this decision comes discipleship. What is discipleship? When our hearts are truly transformed by the Holy Spirit, we are called to live like Jesus, spend time with God, and we want to share the Good News of Jesus with others. Who is discipling you and who are you discipling to grow God's Kingdom?



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# REFLECTION QUESTIONS

According to Romans 3, how do we understand "justification" as it relates to our relationship with God? What is required to be justified before God?

What does Romans 3:23 tell us about the human condition? What does verse 24 say about God?

If the Law is powerless to save, what is the purpose of God's Law according to Romans 3?

In Romans 4, Abraham is highlighted as someone of great faith. Can you think of anyone in your life who exemplifies strong faith? How has that person's faith had an impact on you?

In Romans 4:21, we learn that Abraham was "fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised." Does this describe your understanding of faith? How does this statement about Abraham encourage or challenge you?

# PHILIPPIANS 2:1-11

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Jesus was the perfect example of how to be humble.
Discuss with your family how following Jesus is
imitating Him! What does humility looks like inside
your home and outside your home. How can your
family serve and grow God's Kingdom with humility?





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# REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What do you think it was like for Jesus to leave heaven and become human? To empty himself—"made himself nothing" (2:7)—and become obedient to death, even death on a cross, for our sake? What is the significance of the descent of Jesus? What are the implications for our own lives?

What comes to mind when you hear the word "humility"? C.S. Lewis says that humility isn't thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less—and thinking of others more. What's the difference, and why does it matter that we understand humility properly?

What does it mean to consider someone "better than yourself" (2:3)? How does humility differ from being a doormat? Can you think of anyone you know who truly puts the interests of others ahead of his or her interests? How have you seen that?

How does this passage challenge society's definition of success? How does it call us to something greater? Read a related passage, Romans 12:1-2-what do those verses teach us about how God's grace can transform our lives to be more like Jesus?

How is God calling you to pour yourself out in service and love? What is one specific way you can imitate Christ's humility this week?

# ROMANS 3:19-26

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Even though we are sinful humans, Jesus has made us right before God by paying the price for our sins (atonement). As a family, pray together and thank God for this gift of grace - totally undeserved ,and totally free!





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# REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What does "sanctification" mean? Define it using your own words.

In Romans 8:5, Paul writes that those who live according to the flesh set their minds on what the flesh desires. What does "the flesh" desire? What does the Spirit desire? Which is more powerful?

Verse 11 says, "the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you." How would your life look different if you lived in full confidence that you had access to that kind of power?

Romans 8 also teaches that the Spirit of God dwelling in us makes us sons and daughters of God. What special rights or privileges do we have access to as God's children?

Much like looking at old photos of ourselves with outdated haircuts or clothing and saying, "I can't believe I looked like that," sanctification causes us to look backward and have a hard time recognizing our sinful thoughts, patterns, and behaviors. What behaviors or thought patterns from early in your faith do you look back on and say, "I can't believe I was like that?"

# ROMANS 8

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After we receive Christ and are justified by God, God sanctifies us. Sanctification is the gradual process of becoming holy, more like Jesus each and every day! How have you seen God at work in your lives over the last few months or years, sanctifying you?