

The Outpouring of the Holy Spirit

WARM-UP

- What is one language you'd like to learn, and why?
- What is one story or lesson from a teacher or parent that you can't help but share to others?
- Would you consider yourself a dependable person? Why or why not?

WORD

*¹When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. **ACTS 2:1-4***

On the day of Pentecost, God poured out His Holy Spirit on the disciples gathered in Jerusalem. This was the first time that the Spirit had been poured out on men on a large scale. As the disciples were filled with the Spirit, they spoke in other languages, and the people around them heard God being glorified in their own languages. In this lesson, we will look at three truths we can learn from the first outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

1 The promise of the Holy Spirit is for all believers.

And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit . . . **ACTS 2:4**

(Read also **JOEL 2:28,29.**)

The followers of Jesus who had gathered in Jerusalem were *all filled with the Holy Spirit*. In Joel, God had promised to pour out His Spirit *on all flesh*. Anyone who is a follower of Christ and claims the promise of the Holy Spirit can experience the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. What happened when you claimed the promise of the Holy Spirit?

2 The power of the Holy Spirit can be displayed through spiritual gifts.

And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. **ACTS 2:4**

On the day of Pentecost, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit was made visible through the speaking of other languages. This is also called speaking in tongues, and it is one of the many gifts of the Holy Spirit. What are the other gifts of the Spirit (Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12:8-11)? Through which spiritual gifts have you experienced or witnessed the Holy Spirit manifested?

One purpose of the spiritual gifts is to declare the mighty works of God.

11“ . . . both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.” . . .

17“And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams . . .” **ACTS 2:11,17**

The Holy Spirit manifests through spiritual gifts. These spiritual gifts always point back to God and His mighty works. In Joel, God promised that He would pour out His Spirit on all flesh, and His people would receive the gifts of prophecy, dreams, and visions. How does God use the spiritual gifts to reveal His mighty works?

APPLICATION

- Have you experienced the outpouring of the Holy Spirit? Ask someone to pray with you to receive the Holy Spirit.
- How can you bless someone in your family today using the gifts of the Spirit? Commit to praying in the Spirit for your family each day.
- The gifts of the Holy Spirit proclaim the mighty works of God to all men. How can others see the power of God at work in you through the spiritual gifts?

PRAYER

- Pray for a deeper understanding of how the Holy Spirit can work in and through you. Thank God that He gives His Spirit to all men.
- Pray to be continually filled by the Holy Spirit every day. Ask Him to speak to you as you read your Bible daily.
- Ask God for a Scripture for a specific person from home, work, or school. Pray for the courage to step out and tell the person the Scripture this week.

NOTES



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