Studies in Acts

Study two

Key verse: Acts 2:11b.

"... we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!"



Big Idea: The power of the Holy Spirit is given for the proclamation of the gospel.

Kick Off

Discuss your conversion experience. Was it dramatic or gradual? What happened to convince you that God is real? Why do you continue on as a Christian?

STUDY

Read Acts 2:1-13.

- 1. Pentecost is the feast of weeks. The word means fiftieth. It's the celebration that happened at the end of a week of weeks following the Passover. What did the Feast of weeks originally celebrate. cf Leviticus 23:15ff.
- 2. What reasons would God choose to send the Spirit during a celebration?
- 3. How did the Spirit come and what reactions would the disciples have had to this event as it took place v2?
- 4. Do you think there is any significance to the Holy Spirit being represented as wind and fire? What does wind and fire represent and do? cf. Malachi 3:3 and Matt 3:11.
- 5. Jesus back in Acts 1:8 promised with the coming of the Spirit his disciples would be witnesses. The effect of the Spirit on his disciples enabled what v4?
- 6. What else did the coming of the Spirit enable in vv5,6?
- 7. What was the focus of the Spirit empowered speakers v11?
- 8. Is the language barrier around the globe a blessing or a curse? cf Genesis 11:1-9
 - Is the day of Pentecost a sign of the reverse of Babel?



- 9. How would you answer the question raised in v12?
- 10. In the light of this amazing miracle and clear speech about the wonders of God in people's mother tongues is v13 a surprise?
- 11. Read Paul's wish and prayer for all of God's people in Romans 15:5-6. How important is church unity to you?

THINK AND APPLY

How does the Holy Spirit prepare people today to hear the wonders of God in their own language?

When opportunities arise for us to speak about God to others should we see these as Spirit initiated events? If yes what difference should that make in our speaking?

When Spirit prompted opportunities do arise what are we to talk about v11?

When such opportunities arise what do we tend to talk about?

PRAYER

What can you pray about arising from this study?

