

Dawning of a New Age
Acts 2:14-41

Getting Started

- ❖ When have you seen and experienced the work of the Spirit in your life and Church?

Key Ideas for Discussion

1. The Prophesied Spirit (v.14-17a; 19-21)
2. The Prophesying, Spirit-Filled Believers (v.16-18)

Takeaway Truth: A defining characteristic of the “Last Days” is the work of the Holy Spirit within God’s people so they can glorify Jesus before unbelievers.

Digging Deeper

- ❖ Revisit the sermon and sermon outline. Read the Acts 2:14-41 and answer the following:
 - What stood out to you in the sermon? Did anything in particular challenge, encourage, convict, or intrigue you? Did you gain a better appreciation and understanding of Pentecost and the gift of tongues?
 - What do you observe about Peter as he addresses the crowd?
 - How does Peter explain these amazing events that have taken place at Pentecost?
 - What images and/or words come to mind when you hear the phrase “The Last Days”?
 - How did Peter get his Jewish audience (v. 14) to consider that they were witnessing an act of God? (v.16)
 - In v. 17-21 Peter quoted Joel 2:28-32. What signs of the last days did the prophet Joel predict? Which one had been fulfilled?
 - Why is “prophesying” an important manifestation of the Holy Spirit in our lives?
 - What is the practical, Kingdom benefit of the spiritual gift of prophesying?
 - How did Jerry explain repentance? What does it look like to repent? (v.38)
 - On what basis does Peter announce that God has made this Jesus both Lord and Christ (vv. 29-36)?
 - How did the people respond to Peter’s clear proclamation of the truth about Jesus and the truth about themselves (vv. 37-41)?

- ❖ (For some Extra Bible Study) **Read Acts 2:42-47**. What are the spiritual and practical results of the outpouring of the Spirit?

Apply It!

- ❖ These converts were aware of the filling of the Holy Spirit from the time they were saved. When and how did you become sensitive to the role of the Holy Spirit in empowering your life?
- ❖ Do you believe the Holy Spirit will fill you and work through you? Do you struggle with or have difficulty appropriating this truth?
- ❖ These early New Testament believers spent their time learning, sharing, and praying together. What specific activities can we do to follow this church model?
- ❖ Do you have a Christian friend who you can pray, share and be authentic with?
- ❖ Have you ever resisted the convicting work of the Holy Spirit? If so, why?

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Think About It!

Here is an uplifting thought from the Inspirational Study Bible.

A transformed group stood beside a transformed Peter as he announced some weeks later: “Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.”

No timidity in his words. No reluctance. About three thousand people believed his message.

The apostles sparked a movement. The people became followers of the death-conqueror. They couldn’t hear enough or say enough about him.... Christ was their model, their message. They preached “Jesus Christ and him crucified,” not for the lack of another topic, but because they couldn’t exhaust this one.

What unlocked the doors of the apostles’ hearts?

Simple. They saw Jesus. They encountered the Christ. Their sins collided with their Savior and their Savior won!...

A lot of things would happen to them over the next few decades. Many nights would be spent away from home. Hunger would gnaw at their bellies. Rain would soak their skin. Stones would bruise their bodies. Shipwrecks, lashings, martyrdom. But there was a scene in the repertoire of memories that caused them to never look back: the betrayed coming back to find his betrayers; not to scourge them, but to send them. Not to criticize them for forgetting, but to commission them to remember. Remember that he who was dead is alive and they who were guilty have been forgiven.

(From Six Hours One Friday by Max Lucado)

<p>Note from Pastor Jerry: For this year’s CG questions, group resources and Bible studies from John Stott (Acts Seeing the Spirit at Work), John MacArthur (MacArthur Bible Studies: Acts), Jack Hayford (Kingdom Power) and Max Lucado (Life Lessons from the Book of Acts) are used in addition to original material.</p>
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WORSHIP RESOURCE

October 31, 2021 | 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

WORSHIP SONGS

THIS IS AMAZING GRACE

Words by Phil Wickham and Jeremy Riddle, 2013

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness, whose love is mighty and so much stronger? The King of glory, the King above all kings. Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder, who leaves us breathless in awe and wonder? The King of glory, the King above all kings.

This is amazing grace; this is unfailing love that you would take my place, that you would bear my cross. You laid down your life that I would be set free. Jesus, I sing for all that you've done for me.

Who brings the chaos back into order, who makes the orphan a son and daughter? The King of glory, the King of glory. Who rules the nations with truth and justice, shines like the sun in all of its brilliance? The King of glory, the King above all kings.

CHAIN BREAKER

Words and Music by Zach Williams, 2015

If you've been walking the same old road for miles and miles.
If you've been hearing the same old voice tell the same old lies.
If you're trying to fill the same old holes inside,
there's a better life; there's a better life.

*If you've got pain, He's a pain taker; if you feel lost,
He's a way maker. If you need freedom or saving, He's a prison shaking Savior; if you've got chains, He's a chain breaker.*

We've all searched for the light of day in the dead of night.
We've all found ourselves worn out from the same old fight.
We've all run to things we know just ain't right.
There's a better life; there's a better life.

If you believe it, if you receive it. If you can feel it, somebody testify.

COME AS YOU ARE

Words and Music by David Crowder, Matt Maher, Ben Glover, 2014

Come out of sadness from wherever you've been.
Come broken-hearted, let rescue begin.
Come find your mercy, O sinner come kneel.
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal.

*So lay down your burdens, lay down your shame.
All who are broken lift up your face.
O wanderer come home, you're not too far.
So lay down your hurt, lay down your heart, come as you are.*

There's hope for the hopeless and all those who've strayed.
Come sit at the table, come taste the grace.
There's rest for the weary, rest that endures.
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure.

Come as you are; fall in his arms, come as you are.

BUILD MY LIFE

Words and Music by Brett Younker, Karl Martin, Kirby Kaple, Matt Redman, and Pat Barrett, 2016

Worthy of every song we could ever sing.
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring.
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe, we live for You.

Jesus the name above every other name.
Jesus the only one who could ever save.
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe, we live for You.

*Holy, there is no one like You, there is none beside You.
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are and fill me
with Your heart and lead me in Your love to those around me.*

I will build my life upon Your love; it is a firm foundation.
I will put my trust in You alone, and I will not be shaken.

DAILY READINGS | BOOK OF COMMON WORSHIP

SUNDAY | Ps. 117; Nehemiah 5:1-9; Acts 20:7-12; Luke 12:22-31
MONDAY | Ps. 5; Nehemiah 6:1-19; Rev. 10:1-11; Matt. 13:36-43
TUESDAY | Ps. 42; Nehemiah 12:27-31; Rev. 11:1-19; Matt. 13:44-52
WEDNESDAY | Ps. 1; Nehemiah 13:4-22; Rev. 12:1-12; Matt. 13:53-58
THURSDAY | Ps. 16; Ezra 7:1-26; Revelation 14:1-13; Matt. 14:1-12
FRIDAY | Ps. 65; Ezra 7:27-28; Revelation 15:1-8; Matthew 14:13-21
SATURDAY | Ps. 98; Ezra 9:1-15; Revelation 17:1-14; Matt. 14:22-36

PRAYER OF RENEWAL

Triune God,
we know that those who walk in the law of the Lord,
and whose way is blameless, have peace in their hearts.
We confess that our souls are not at rest.
We are disturbed and downcast for we do not keep your word.
We do not walk with you as we should;
nor love you with our whole heart;
we are not steadfast in keeping your commands.
Help us to keep our eyes fixed on all your ways,
and to praise you with an upright heart.
We desire rest for our souls;
we want to be satisfied in you alone. Amen.



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