

Be Filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1-13)

The only way we can point people to Christ,
is to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

When we study the work of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost...

1) It came with power (v. 1-4)

2) It was recognizable (v. 5-11)

3) It pointed people to Christ (v. 12-13)

Significant questions to tackle from this passage:

1) What is the difference between being *baptized by* the Holy Spirit versus being *filled with* the Holy Spirit?

2) Which of the two were taking place at Pentecost?

3) How can I be filled by the Holy Spirit?

- Do not 'quench' the Holy Spirit (1 Thes 5:19)
- Do not 'grieve' the Holy Spirit (Eph 4:30)
- "Walk" in the Holy Spirit (Gal 5:16)
& Let the Word of Christ dwell in you 'richly' (Col 3:16)

Discussion Questions for Acts 2:1-13

1. How do we compare the modern version of speaking in 'tongues' (which resembles ecstatic speech or a phonetic repetition of sounds) with the type of tongues described at Pentecost in Acts 2? Are they both true forms of tongues or is one something else altogether? Can I find both forms of tongues in scripture?
2. What was God trying to accomplish by outpouring the Holy Spirit at Pentecost? How was that work successful from what we know about the history of the early church and the lives of the disciples? How did Peter use these events as a teaching moment in the rest of Acts chapter 2? What is the primary purpose of the Holy Spirit?
3. Is baptism of the Holy Spirit the same as being filled with the Holy Spirit? Is the baptism of the Holy Spirit something I need to ask for after I become a Christian? Is the baptism of the Holy Spirit dependent on the individual's worthiness or personal decision?
4. What was the role of the Holy Spirit *before* Pentecost or even in the days of the Old Testament? How was this role of the Holy Spirit going to be different *after* Pentecost?
5. In what ways do you struggle with being filled with the Holy Spirit?
 - a. Is it in the awareness of the Spirit?
 - b. Is it in your confession and repentance of sin in prayer?
 - c. Is it in your abiding and resting in the Word of God?
6. What is it like to be filled with the Holy Spirit? How does it help in your struggle with sin?
7. If the Church and all of its members, were *regularly* and *continuously* filled with the Holy Spirit according to the command of Paul in Eph 5:18 and with what we read in Gal 5:22-23 about the fruit of the Spirit, how would our families, churches, relationships, and nation be different right now?
8. Take time to pray about anything that God might have brought to your attention.