**THE PROMISED HOLY SPIRIT**

**AND THE PLAN FOR THE NATIONS**

**Acts 2:1-13**

**THE BIG IDEA: The Lord promised and delivered His Holy Spirit so that His people would could be empowered to proclaim the Gospel to all nations, tribes, and tongues.**

**GOD ALWAYS \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ON HIS PROMISES**

* *“When the day of Pentecost had arrived, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like that of a violent rushing wind came from heaven, and it filled the whole house where they were staying. 3 They saw tongues like flames of fire that separated and rested on each one of them. 4 Then they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them.”*
* **God always had a plan and a promise to make His presence among His people through the Holy Spirit.**
* The LORD - *“After this I will pour out my Spirit on all humanity…”* (Joel 2:28a)
* Jesus - *“But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have told you.”* (John 14:26)
* Jesus - *“When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth. For he will not speak on his own, but he will speak whatever he hears. He will also declare to you what is to come. 14 He will glorify me, because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you.”* (John 16:13-14)
* Jesus - *“While he was with them, he commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for the Father’s promise. ‘Which,’ he said, ‘you have heard me speak about; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit in a few days.’”* (Acts 1:4-5)
* **The promise of the Holy Spirit came with expectations from the LORD that we would be His witnesses to all people!**
* Jesus – *“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”* (Acts 1:8)

**CHRISTIANS RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT ONCE BUT THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

* *“They saw tongues like flames of fire that separated and rested on each one of them. 4 Then they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them.”* (Acts 2:3-4)
* **Every Christian receives the Holy Spirit when they repent of their sins and put their faith in Jesus for their salvation.**
* *“The day of Pentecost was the installation of God’s new source of blessing and power for the benefit of His people. Now every person who turns to Christ in repentance and faith has access to this great source of power. The installation happens only one time, at the point of salvation, but the significance is ongoing.”* – Tony Merida
* **While every Christian has the Holy Spirit living in them, the Holy Spirit can empower us beyond our personal capabilities at specific moments to do God’s will.**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ REMINDS US THAT GOD’S PLAN HAS ALWAYS BEEN FILL HEAVEN WITH PEOPLE FROM ALL NATIONS, TRIBES, AND TONGUES**

* **We don’t lead people into Truth by making fun of them or speaking down to them in a way that creates barriers rather than bridges.**
* **The ability of the disciples to speak in tongues, known native languages, when the Holy Spirit rested on them was a fulfillment of Jesus’ promise in Acts 1:8 that they would be His witnesses to the whole world.**
* *“Now there were Jews staying in Jerusalem, devout people from every nation under heaven. 6 When this sound occurred, a crowd came together and was confused because each one heard them speaking in his own language. 7 They were astounded and amazed, saying, ‘Look, aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 How is it that each of us can hear them in our own native language? 9 Parthians, Medes, Elamites; those who live in Mesopotamia, in Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts), 11 Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the magnificent acts of God in our own tongues.’ 12 They were all astounded and perplexed, saying to one another, ‘What does this mean?’ 13 But some sneered and said, ‘They’re drunk on new wine.’”* (Acts 2:1-13)
* **As Christians we don’t serve a tribal deity that is consumed with only one people group, but a God who delights in His magnificent multi-colored, multi-language, diverse creation of humans that will fill heaven!**
* *“After this I looked, and there was a vast multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language, which no one could number, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes with palm branches in their hands. 10 And they cried out in a loud voice: Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”* (Revelation 7:9-10)
* **When you live under the power and direction of the Holy Spirit there will be people who think you are drunk, crazy, or obnoxious, but stay faithful, Christian, because God is reaping a harvest of souls through His faithful witnesses!**

**\*\*CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION ON BACK\*\***

**CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION**

**ICE-BREAKER: What is the most important promise someone has made to you in your life (aside from God/Jesus)?**

**START THINKING:**

* What do we learn about God/Jesus in Acts 2:1-13?
* What were the two promises the Lord kept in Acts 2:1-13?
* Were the “tongues” spoken in Acts 2 an unintelligible heavenly language? How do we know? (See vss. 6-11)
* What power did the disciples receive when the Holy Spirit arrived? (reference Acts 1:8; 2:11)

**DIGGING DEEPER:**

* Why is it so important to let the Bible determine our doctrinal beliefs rather than what others have taught/do teach?
* How can we ensure that those we listen to are teaching sound doctrine?
* How do we know that every Christian has been baptized by and possesses the Holy Spirit? (References: 1 Corinthians 12:12-13; Romans 8:9; Ephesians 1:13-14)
* In what ways is the Holy Spirit empowering you to be God’s witness?
* What are some things that hinder you/others from reaching people who are different from you (nationally, ethnically, socially, religion, etc.)? How can you overcome those hindrances?

**FOCUS**

* What is your big takeaway from this message?
* Who are you inviting to Church next Sunday?