

LG 6: The Power Acts 2

Objectives: We desire to introduce the transforming power of the Holy Spirit and discuss how we can have access to this power.

Getting to Know You (15 minutes)

If you could have any superpower what would you choose? Why?

Launch

We are starting an overview of the Book of Acts seeking to learn what Jesus continued to do and teach after he went to heaven. Tonight we are going to look at parts of chapter 2. One of the main characters is a guy named Peter who became the leader of the church. He gave a sermon to a crowd of people that were mocking them...

Explore

Read Acts 2:14-16; 22-24; 29-41

Based on this sermon, how would you describe Peter? (bold, confident, powerful)
This is how Peter remained to the end of his life.

Now read Luke 22:54-62, which happened 50 days earlier. How would you describe Peter in this passage? (timid, ashamed of Jesus, scared)

What happened in over those 50 days in the life of Peter to bring about this change?

(forgiven/restored by Jesus, saw the risen Christ, waited for and received the Holy Spirit)

- In what ways do you relate to Peter?

We are going to take the rest of our time to look at one of the major events that brought about the transformation of Peter.

We will read Acts 2:1-13, and ask a few observation questions.

Describe what is happening in v. 2-3. What does that tell us? (violent wind and fire indicate the presence of God in OT- God is present!)

v. 4- Who is the Holy Spirit? In the OT what was the relationship between God's people and the Holy Spirit? (The HS is God. In the OT the HS only filled special people for special purposes, even the disciples had not received the Holy Spirit at this point in Acts)

v. 5-13 What was the immediate result?

What was the result for the rest of the chapter? (boldness in declaring the gospel, the nations heard the good news, transformed lives)

This was a dramatic experience as God ushered in an era where all of His people can receive the Holy Spirit. Not all instances of people being filled with the Spirit in the Bible were this dramatic. **What could it look like for us to be filled with the Holy Spirit today?**

If you could receive the transforming power of the Holy Spirit today, would you want it? (Allow reflection time) **Why or why not?**

How are we to receive the Holy Spirit today? How can we experience the transforming power in our life?

Read Ephesians 1:13-14 (all people receive the HS when you believe/trust the gospel for salvation. You will want to explain the gospel in your own words)

Read Ephesians 5:15-18. Paul, the author, is telling people that have received the Holy Spirit that they need to be "filled with the Spirit", what does that mean? (they need to be directed or empowered by the Spirit. Contrast with being empowered by alcohol)

So, how can we be filled? DRY

Desire- we need to want to be filled

Repent from known sin.

Yield control of your life to Christ.

What would it look like if all of us were filled with the Holy Spirit? (in Acts lives were transformed, people boldly told others about Jesus, people lived selfless lives)

Apply

- What will keep you from being filled by the HS?
- Pray that we would desire, repent and yield.
- Offer Thirsty book for those that will promise to do it.

Announcements (5 minutes)

- Fall Retreat October 10:9-11. Have someone explain why it would be good to go. **Bring computer to sign up!**