

Acts 2:1-21 – Bible Study

Read:

Acts 2:1-21

General question:

What stands out to you from this passage?

Further questions:

The Spirit comes (v1-4)

- Fire often represents God's presence in the Bible. Look up the following references as a starting point and briefly discuss them:
 - Moses and the burning bush (Exodus 3:1-6)
 - The fire on Mount Sinai (Exodus 19:16-19)
 - The fire over the Holy of Holies in the Tabernacle (Exodus 40:34-38)
 - Solomon dedicating the Temple (2 Chronicles 7:1-3)
- Is encountering "God's holy presence", in a way that grips you or brings you to your knees, something you have ever felt? If yes, and you feel able, tell the group more about what this was like?
- Is asking God to 'fill you with the Holy Spirit' (Ephesians 5:18) something you pray for very often? If so, what are you expecting to happen when you pray this prayer?

The crowd responds (v5-13)

- The crowd had lots of questions (verses 7, 8 and 12). What questions do you have about the day of Pentecost or the Holy Spirit?
- Why do you think the crowd thought the believers were drunk (v13)? What was it about them that gave this impression do you think?
- In Romans 8:14-15 Paul says that the Spirit makes us "children of God" who cry "Abba Father". Read Romans 8:14-15 and discuss what this means for you. Is there anything we can do to cultivate a sense of intimacy with God?

The Apostle explains (v14-21)

- Peter had failed Jesus, yet here he is – the one proclaiming Jesus to a large crowd of people. How might God be speaking to you about his love and grace that overcomes your failures?
- The prophet Joel says that the Spirit is for "all people" (v17), and that "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (v21). Discuss what this means for you and our church.
- One thing the Spirit does is reveal Jesus to us. Read these words from an old worship song and pray them again for yourself:
"Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,
to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus."
- Perhaps finish with a time of prayer where you spend some time in quiet, waiting on God, praying the prayer "Come Holy Spirit".