

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, January 28, 2007

Passage: Acts 2:1-13

Memory Passage: John 16:14

TODAY: *From your study this past week, what is one thing that impressed you that can be of help in your life?*

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Acts 2:1.** On what day did the Holy Spirit come? Why is the day significant?
- (b) Where did the name for Pentecost come from (Leviticus 23:15-16)? Where were these days counted from (Leviticus 23:4-5)?
- (c) What is the significance of the words “fully come” (Galatians 4:4-6; Ephesians 1:10)? What does this tell us about God’s providence?
- (d) Who was present in Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:5)? How does this display the providence of God’s timing for the coming of the Spirit and the birth of the church?
- (e) Luke mentions again that they were together in one accord. Why was this important (Psalm 133; John 17:21; Ephesians 4:3-6)?
- (f) *Family:* Read Acts 2:1 and Galatians 4:4-6. Talk about the feast days in Israel. What was the Feast of Pentecost? When did it occur and what did they celebrate? What was the significance of the Spirit coming on the Day of Pentecost? Spend some time thanking God for His perfect timing in everything.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Acts 2:2-4.** What were the three signs of the coming of the Holy Spirit?
- (b) What was the significance of *the wind* (John 3:5-8; Genesis 1:1-2)? Read Ezekiel 37:1-14. What did the Holy Spirit do in these men and women on the day of Pentecost? What was the wind a reminder of?
- (c) What is the significance of *the fire* (Genesis 15:17; Exodus 3:2-4; Exodus 13:21-22; Exodus 24:17; Hebrews 12:29)? What was the fire a reminder of?
- (d) What is the significance of *the tongues* (Genesis 11:6-9)? What will be the composition of the church (Revelation 5:9; 7:9; 14:6)? What were the tongues a reminder of?
- (e) What is the main purpose of tongues (1 Corinthians 14:21-22)? Who are tongues a sign of judgment against (Isaiah 28:11)? Where had the gospel been restricted to (Matthew 10:5-6)? Where will the church take the gospel (Acts 1:8)?
- (f) *Family:* Read Acts 2:2-4 and John 3:5-8. Talk about the role of the Holy Spirit in conversion. What does the Spirit do to bring us to salvation? Why is this mysterious? How is this like the wind? How do we know that a person is truly born again; what is the evidence of the Spirit (John 3:8-16)? Pray for someone today that needs to be born again by the power of the Holy Spirit.

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Acts 2:5-11.** What miracle took place at Pentecost that amazed the multitudes?
- (b) Were they speaking in known languages or is something else happening? Is this a miracle of “speaking” or “hearing”? Consider the language of Acts 2:6, 8, and 11.
- (c) Did everyone *hear* them speaking in their own language (Acts 2:13)? What did these hear? What does this tell us about these tongues? What did some think about these men (Acts 2:13); what did they hear?
- (d) What were they speaking about (Acts 2:11)? Why is this significant (John 16:13-14)? Is there a connection between evangelism and praising God? Explain.
- (e) Read Psalm 107:1-8. What are believers exhorted to do? Why should we praise the Lord?
- (f) *Family:* Read Acts 2:5-11 and Psalm 107:8. Talk about why we praise the Lord. What are the reasons that we praise Him? What are some of the wonderful works that you can praise Him for in your life? Take time to do that together.

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-11.** Do all believers have the same gifts? Who gives gifts to believers?
- (b) Some say that everyone can speak in tongues. What does 1 Corinthians 12:29-30 teach?
- (c) Read 1 Corinthians 13:8-10. Will tongues last forever? When will they cease (1 Corinthians 13:10)?
- (d) What guidelines does Paul give for the use of tongues in Corinth (1 Corinthians 14:6-13; 27-33)? How does this compare with what happens in most Pentecostal and Charismatic churches today?
- (e) What does Paul conclude about tongues in 1 Corinthians 14:39-40? What two things matter the most in the church (1 Corinthians 14:39; 14:19 and 1 Corinthians 14:40; 14:23; 14:33)?
- (f) *Family:* Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 and 12:29-30. Discuss the gift of tongues. What do people teach about it today? What did Paul teach about it in 1 Corinthians? Explain what you would consider to be a biblical view of tongues. Pray for your church that there is order and clear teaching whenever you come together.

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Acts 2:12-13.** What affect did this have on *everyone* (Acts 2:12)?
- (b) What were the two responses to the day of Pentecost? Why do you think the responses were different (2 Corinthians 4:3-4)?
- (c) Has every believer been baptized in the Holy Spirit? What do 1 Corinthians 12:13 and Romans 8:9 tell us?
- (d) Is every believer filled with the Holy Spirit? What does Paul tell the Ephesian believers to do in Ephesians 5:18?
- (e) Is it possible to lose the Holy Spirit as in the Old Testament (John 14:17)? Compare Psalm 51:11 and Ephesians 1:13-14. Can a believer lose the power of the Spirit in his life (Ephesians 4:30-32; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-19)? What are some ways we grieve the Spirit or quench His work in us?
- (f) *Family*: Read Acts 2:12-13 and Ephesians 4:30-32. What happens when believers do not obey the Holy Spirit? Do they lose His indwelling presence? What are some ways that the power of the Spirit is quenched in our lives? Pray that God would give you a heart to obey Him in all areas of our lives.

DAY 6 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

Think back through what you have learned each day this week. Read Acts 2:1-13. What is the importance of the Spirit coming on the Day of Pentecost? What three signs accompanied His coming? Do these three still occur today? Why not? What was the miracle that occurred on the Day of Pentecost? How did it affect those who were present in Jerusalem that day? Pray for worship tomorrow, that all who come will come to praise God for the wonderful things He has done.

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The Birth of the Church

“And when the day of Pentecost had fully come... ”