

Pentecost

Acts 2:1-42

Have you ever heard of anyone speak of a “burning desire” to say or do something?

Burning usually gives the sense of urgency. Let’s find out what urgent desire the Lord would have us carry out.

Prayer

Dear Father in heaven, we know it is through the Holy Spirit that we have been brought to saving faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. We also know it is this same Spirit that gives us both the desire and ability to witness to others about Jesus. Please grant us the courage and strength to rely on the Holy Spirit as we seek out witness opportunities as your apostles did. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.



The Story - Acts 2:1-42

When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. {2} And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. {3} Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. {4} And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

{5} And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. {6} And when this

sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. {7} Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? {8} And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born? {9} Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, {10} Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, {11}



Cretans and Arabs; we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God."

{12} So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "Whatever could this mean?"

{13} Others mocking said, "They are full of new wine." {14} But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. {15} For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day.

{16} But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: {17} And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams. {18} And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy. {19} I will show wonders in heaven above And signs in the earth beneath: Blood and fire and vapor of smoke. {20} The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD. {21} And it shall come to pass That whoever calls on the name of the LORD Shall be saved.'

{22} "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know; {23} "Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; {24} "whom

God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.

{25} "For David says concerning Him: 'I foresaw the LORD always before my face, For He is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken. {26} Therefore my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad; Moreover my flesh also will rest in hope. {27} For You will not leave my soul in Hades, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. {28} You have made known to me the ways of life; You will make me full of joy in Your presence.'

{29} "Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. {30} "Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, {31} "he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. {32} "This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. {33} "Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.

{34} "For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: 'The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, {35} Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.'"

{36} "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

{37} Now when they heard this, they

were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?"

{38} Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. {39} "For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

{40} And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation." {41} Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. {42} And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Recalling Details

1. For what festival had the believers gathered?
2. With what sound did the Holy Spirit come?
3. In what form did the Holy Spirit appear?
4. What special gift did the apostles receive?
5. For what was this gift used?
6. How did the mockers explain this gift?
7. Of what sin did Peter accuse his listeners?
8. How did Peter explain God's "Holy One" not seeing corruption?
9. What was Peter's response to the question, "What shall we do?"
10. What was promised to all who repented and were baptized?

11. What was the visible result of Peter's sermon?
12. Who gets the credit for adding to the church?

What the Story Tells Us

The Holy Spirit was poured out on His believers to enable them to witness about Jesus Christ.

Review - Mark each statement as (T)rue or (F)alse. Cross out the word that makes the statement incorrect and correct it.

1. ____ The apostles did not know that the Holy Spirit was going to be given to them.
2. ____ We should not expect the same outward signs of the Spirit's coming that the apostles had.
3. ____ We can bring others to faith.
4. ____ Unbelievers should be shown they are sinful and need a Savior before we present the Gospel to them.
5. ____ We should trust that the Holy Spirit will give us the right words to say when we witness to others.
6. ____ If a baby is baptized the Holy Spirit will enter his heart when he is older and can confess his sin's.
7. ____ We can know if someone is a true believer or not.

What God Tells Us

The Holy Spirit has called us through baptism and God's Word to be witnesses for Jesus Christ.

Passages - Read each passage and tell how it applies to the work of the Holy Spirit in us.

I Cor. 12:3 b - No one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.

Rom. 8:16 - The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.

Titus 3:5b – According to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Spirit.

Hymn

Read or sing Hymn 224:1-3. See if you can tell in your own words what we are asking the Holy Spirit to do.

Prayer

Dear Father in heaven, thank You for sending Your Holy Spirit to turn our sinful hearts into believing hearts, cleansed and ready to serve as witnesses. May the Spirit bless my witness of Your Word, by working faith in unbelieving hearts. This is Your good will, Your will be done! In Jesus' name. Amen.

Answers

Recalling Details

1. For what festival had the believers gathered? – The feast of Pentecost
2. With what sound did the Holy Spirit come? – A rushing, mighty wind
3. In what form did the Holy Spirit appear? – Divided tongues, as of fire
4. What special gift did the apostles receive? – To speak in other languages
5. For what was this gift used? – To speak God's Word
6. How did the mockers explain this gift? – They are full of new wine (drunk)
7. Of what sin did Peter accuse his listeners? – Crucifying Jesus, the Lord and Christ
8. How did Peter explain God's "Holy One" not seeing corruption? – Jesus rose from the dead and reascended to God's right hand
9. What was Peter's response to the question, "What shall we do?" – Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ
10. What was promised to all who repented and were baptized? – Remission of sins and the Holy Spirit
11. What was the visible result of Peter's sermon? – Three thousand souls were added to the church
12. Who gets the credit for adding to the church? – The Lord added to the church (through the work of the Holy Spirit)

Review - True or False – Words in parentheses should be removed, similar words to those in bold should be added.

1. F The apostles did (not) know that the Holy Spirit was going to be given to them.
2. T We should not expect the same outward signs of the Spirit's coming that the apostles had.
3. F (We) can bring others to faith. – The Holy Spirit
4. T Unbelievers should be shown they are sinful and need a Savior before we present the Gospel to them.
5. T We should trust that the Holy Spirit will give us the right words to say when we witness to others.
6. F If a baby is baptized the Holy Spirit will enter his heart (when he is older and can confess his sin's.)
7. F (We) can know if someone is a true believer or not. – Only God