

Bible Study Guide: The Pentecost Experience

Scripture Focus: Acts 2:1–47

Theme

The coming of the Holy Spirit empowered believers to boldly live out and proclaim the Gospel.

Big Idea

Pentecost was not just a historical event—it was the beginning of a Spirit-filled movement that still transforms lives today.

Overview of Acts 2

Acts 2 records the fulfillment of Jesus' promise that the Holy Spirit would come upon His followers with power. The disciples gathered together in unity, and suddenly the Spirit descended like a rushing wind and tongues of fire. The fearful disciples became bold witnesses, Peter preached the Gospel, thousands were saved, and the church was born.

Study Outline

I. The Believers Were Gathered Together

Scripture: Acts 2:1

“When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.”

Key Points

- Pentecost happened while believers were united in prayer and expectation.
- God often moves powerfully when His people gather together.
- Unity prepares the atmosphere for spiritual breakthrough.

Supporting Scriptures

- Matthew 18:20
- Psalm 133:1
- Acts 1:14

Discussion Questions

1. Why is unity important in the church?
2. What were the disciples waiting for?
3. How does prayer prepare us for God's movement?

Life Application

Commit to spending intentional time in prayer and fellowship with other believers.

II. The Holy Spirit Came with Power

Scripture: Acts 2:2–4

Key Points

- The rushing wind symbolized God's power and presence.
- The tongues of fire represented purification and empowerment.
- The Holy Spirit filled ordinary people for extraordinary purpose.

Supporting Scriptures

- Luke 24:49
- Joel 2:28–29
- John 14:16–17

Discussion Questions

1. What do the wind and fire symbolize?
2. Why did the disciples need the Holy Spirit?
3. How does the Holy Spirit empower believers today?

Life Application

Invite the Holy Spirit to guide, strengthen, and empower your daily walk with Christ.

III. The Gospel Was Heard by Everyone

Scripture: Acts 2:5–13

Key Points

- God enabled people from many nations to hear the Gospel in their own language.
- The message of Jesus is for all people.
- The Holy Spirit breaks barriers and brings people together.

Supporting Scriptures

- Matthew 28:19
- Revelation 7:9
- Romans 10:13–15

Discussion Questions

1. Why was it important that everyone heard the message clearly?
2. What barriers still prevent people from hearing the Gospel today?
3. How can believers help share the Gospel globally?

Life Application

Pray for opportunities to share Jesus with someone from a different background or culture.

IV. Peter Preached with Boldness

Scripture: Acts 2:14–36

Key Points

- Peter went from fearful to fearless through the power of the Spirit.
- The Gospel message centered on Jesus' death and resurrection.
- The Holy Spirit gives believers courage to speak truth.

Supporting Scriptures

- Romans 1:16
- 2 Timothy 1:7
- Acts 1:8

Discussion Questions

1. What changed in Peter after Pentecost?
2. Why is boldness important in sharing faith?
3. What was the focus of Peter's message?

Life Application

Ask God for courage to boldly live out and speak your faith.

V. Hearts Were Changed

Scripture: Acts 2:37–41

Key Points

- The Gospel convicts hearts and leads people to repentance.
- Repentance involves turning toward God.
- Salvation is available to everyone who calls on Jesus.

Supporting Scriptures

- Romans 10:9
- 1 John 1:9
- 2 Corinthians 5:17

Discussion Questions

1. What does true repentance look like?
2. Why were the people “cut to the heart”?
3. How does salvation change a person’s life?

Life Application

Examine your heart and surrender areas that need transformation.

VI. The Church Was Born

Scripture: Acts 2:42–47

Key Points

- The early church devoted themselves to teaching, prayer, fellowship, and worship.

- Spirit-filled believers live in community and generosity.
- Healthy churches reflect the love and power of Christ.

Supporting Scriptures

- Hebrews 10:24–25
- Galatians 6:2
- John 13:35

Discussion Questions

1. What made the early church strong?
2. Why is fellowship important for believers?
3. How can today's church reflect Acts 2?

Life Application

Find practical ways to serve, encourage, and grow within your church community.

Major Themes from Pentecost

- The Promise of the Holy Spirit

- Unity Among Believers
- Boldness in Witnessing
- Repentance and Salvation
- The Birth of the Church
- God’s Power Working Through Ordinary People

Key Verse

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses...” — Acts 1:8

Personal Reflection Questions

1. How is the Holy Spirit working in your life today?
2. Are you living boldly for Christ?
3. What areas of your life need spiritual renewal?
4. How can you help strengthen the church community?

Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Fill us with Your presence and empower us to live boldly for Jesus Christ. Help us walk in unity, grow in faith, and share the Gospel with courage and love. Let our lives reflect the same passion and transformation seen in Acts 2. In Jesus' name, Amen.