



# it starts with one

## IT STARTS WITH ONE, PART 3: DAY ONE

Thousands of people had come from dozens of surrounding countries to gather in Jerusalem to celebrate Pentecost. It had been 7 weeks since Jesus' resurrection. You could hear the hum of hundreds of languages being spoken across the city when suddenly, they were silenced by a loud noise that could only be the power of God.

Before this moment, God's followers had occasionally been empowered by His Spirit—Samson had superhuman strength, and David's mighty men won impossible battles. But at Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came upon Jesus' followers in a new, even more powerful way. His disciples were filled with the Spirit permanently rather than temporarily, which enabled them to proclaim the good news boldly in languages they had never spoken or even studied before.

**BIG IDEA:** [The church is a movement for the entire world—tell everyone about Him.](#)

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is the first thing that comes to mind when you think of church?
2. What were your first/early experiences of attending church? Were those positive or negative experiences in your faith journey?
3. What role does the Holy Spirit play in fellowship and community?
4. How can you experience the power of the Holy Spirit, individually and as a Group?
5. *With your Bible or Bible App, read Acts 2:1-11.*

*On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.*

*At that time there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem. When they heard the loud noise, everyone came running, and they were bewildered to hear their own languages being spoken by the believers. They were completely amazed. "How can this be?" they exclaimed. "These people are all from Galilee, and yet we hear them speaking in our own native languages! Here we are—Parthians, Medes, Elamites, people from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, the province of Asia, Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, and the areas of Libya around Cyrene, visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism), Cretans, and Arabs. And we all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done!" They stood there amazed and perplexed. "What can this mean?" they asked each other. But others in the crowd ridiculed them, saying, "They're just drunk, that's all!"*  
*Acts 2:1-11 (NLT)*

6. Make a list of everything you learned about the Spirit in Acts 2.
7. What immediate effects of the Holy Spirit do we see in Peter and the other believers in this chapter?
8. According to Acts 2:38-39, who is the Holy Spirit for?

*Peter replied, "Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. This promise is to you, to your children, and to those far away—all who have been called by the Lord our God."*

*Acts 2:38-39 (NLT)*

9. Read the entirety of Peter's sermon. What caused so many people to repent and be saved?
10. Read 1 Peter 3:14-16. How did Peter illustrate this in his sermon in Acts 2?
11. After reading the first two chapters in Acts, what is the thing that sticks out to you the most about the church that first day?
12. If the church began as a movement, how do you see the church moving today?
13. If the church began as a movement, what can you do to be a part of that movement?

## MOVING FORWARD

Church is much more than a building or a place. Church is more than pews or hymnals, lights and music. In fact, on opening day, the church had no buildings or rituals, no bands or robed choirs. What it did have was a gathering of people who were intent on one thing: to create followers of Jesus Christ. In that sense, the church was a movement that continues today, a multiplying, multi-cultural gathering of people who believe that Jesus is the Savior and whose lives reflect his teaching.

## CHANGING YOUR MIND

*Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call." Acts 2:38-39*

