



**EMPOWERED**



# **The Voice of the Spirit: Clear, Powerful and Personal**

# Pentecost – Acts 2:1-21 (NLT)

- On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. <sup>2</sup> Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. <sup>4</sup> And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.

# Pentecost – Acts 2:1-21 (NLT)

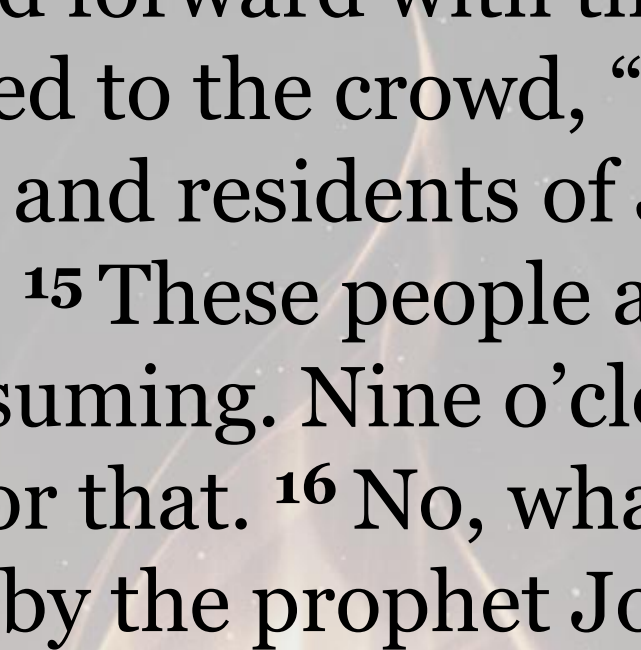
- <sup>5</sup> At that time there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> When they heard the loud noise, everyone came running, and they were bewildered to hear their own languages being spoken by the believers.
- <sup>7</sup> They were completely amazed. “How can this be?” they exclaimed. “These people are all from Galilee, <sup>8</sup> and yet we hear them speaking in our own native languages!

# Pentecost – Acts 2:1-21 (NLT)

<sup>9</sup> Here we are—Parthians, Medes, Elamites, people from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, the province of Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, and the areas of Libya around Cyrene, visitors from Rome <sup>11</sup> (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!” <sup>12</sup> They stood there amazed and perplexed. “What can this mean?” they asked each other. <sup>13</sup> But others in the crowd ridiculed them, saying, “They’re just drunk, that’s all!”

# Pentecost – Acts 2:1-21 (NLT)

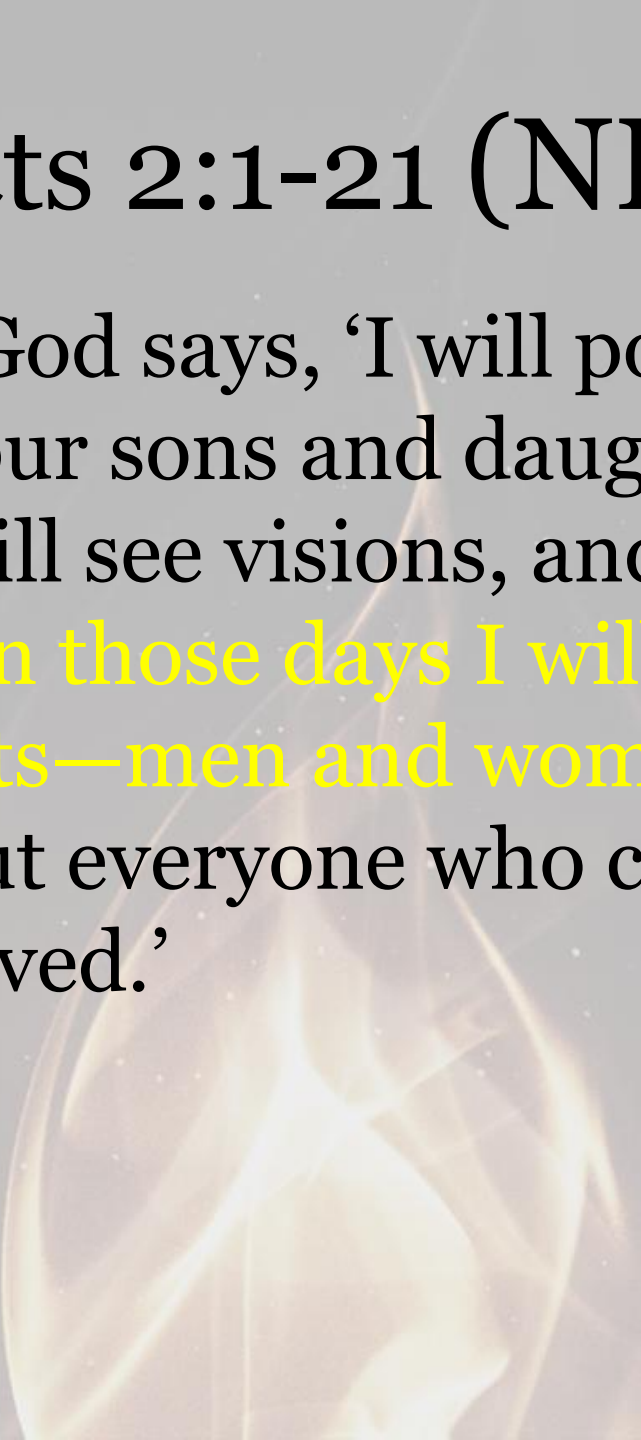
<sup>14</sup> Then Peter stepped forward with the eleven other apostles and shouted to the crowd, “Listen carefully, all of you, fellow Jews and residents of Jerusalem! Make no mistake about this. <sup>15</sup> These people are not drunk, as some of you are assuming. Nine o’clock in the morning is much too early for that. <sup>16</sup> No, what you see was predicted long ago by the prophet Joel:





# Pentecost – Acts 2:1-21 (NLT)

<sup>17</sup> ‘In the last days,’ God says, ‘I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young men will see visions, and your old men will dream dreams. <sup>18</sup> In those days I will pour out my Spirit even on my servants—men and women alike - and they will prophesy. <sup>21</sup> But everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.’



# The holy spirit speaks through a clear word

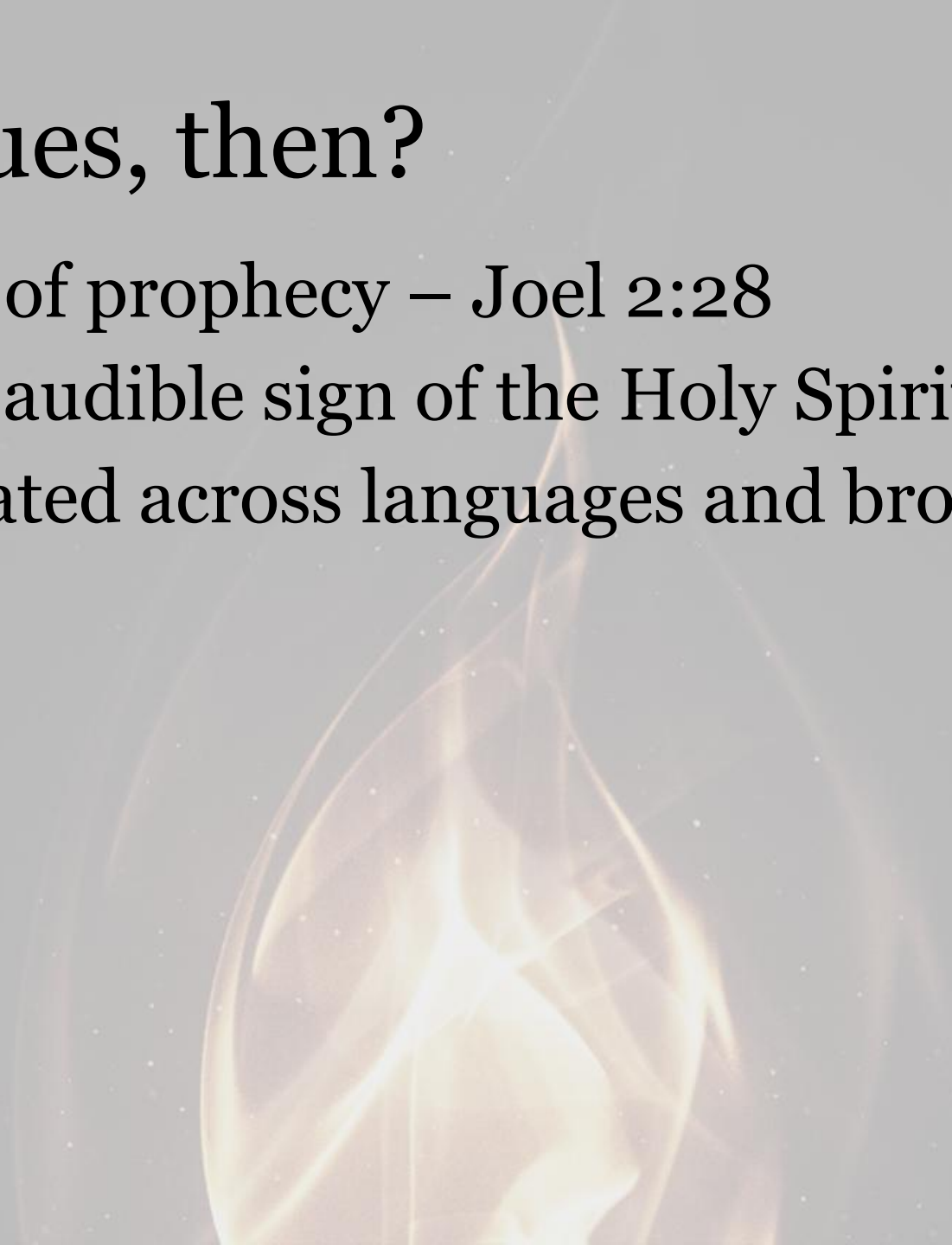
<sup>2</sup> Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Acts 2:1-4 (NIV)



# Why tongues, then?

- Fulfillment of prophecy – Joel 2:28
- Visible and audible sign of the Holy Spirit
- Communicated across languages and brought unity



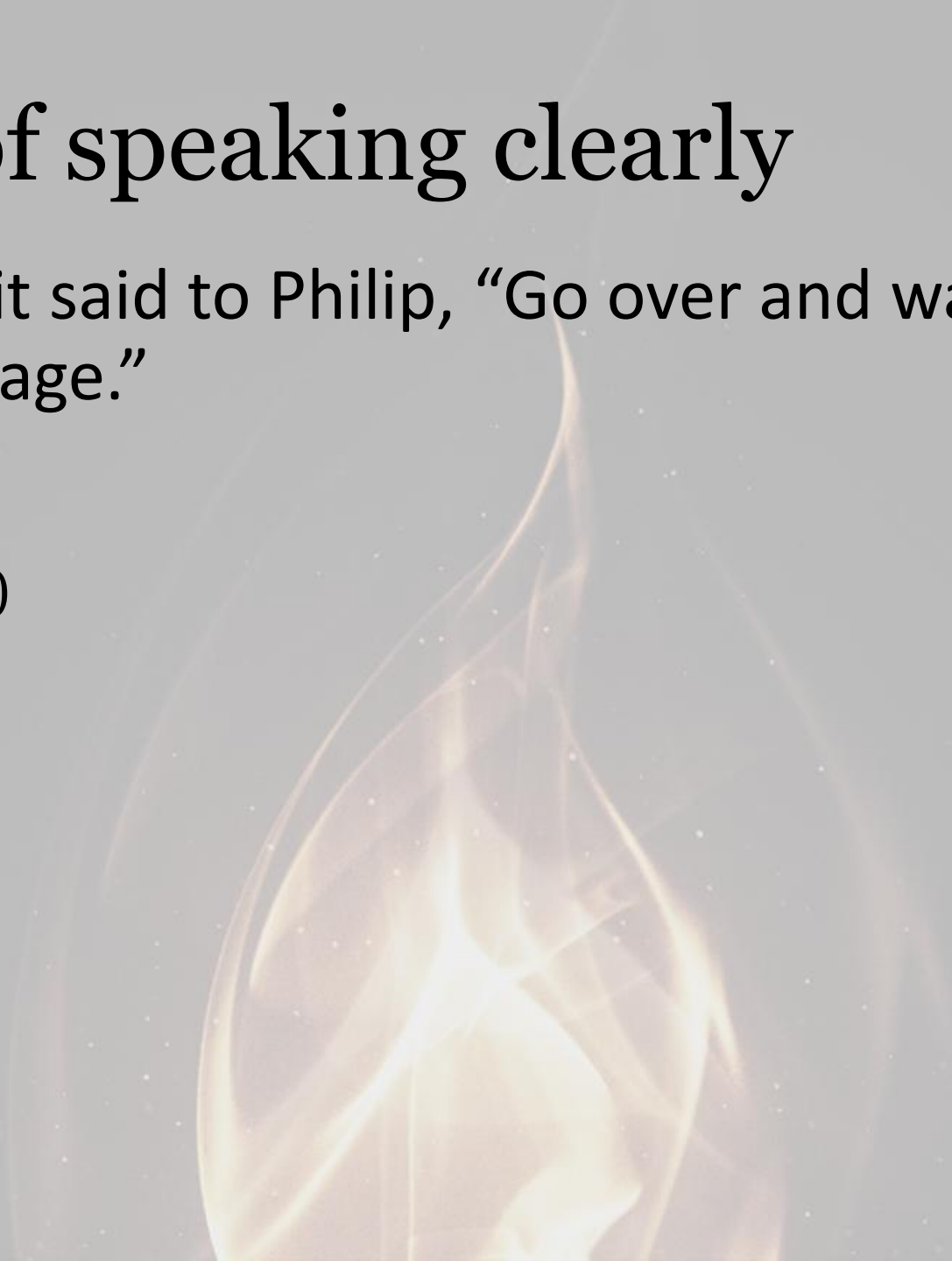
# Why tongues, today?

- **Prayer and intercession:** 1 Cor 14:2
- **Spiritual strengthening:** 1 Cor 14:4
- <sup>18</sup> I thank God that I speak in tongues more than any of you. <sup>19</sup> But in a church meeting I would rather speak five understandable words to help others than ten thousand words in an unknown language. 1 Cor 14:18-19 (NLT)

# Example of speaking clearly

<sup>29</sup> The Holy Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and walk along beside the carriage.”

Acts 8:29 (NLT)



# The Holy spirit comes with power

- “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses...” Acts 1:8
- <sup>14</sup> Then Peter stepped forward with the eleven other apostles and shouted to the crowd, “Listen carefully, all of you, fellow Jews and residents of Jerusalem! Make no mistake about this. Acts 2:14

# Holy spirit is personal

## **Prophecy**

<sup>3</sup> But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort. <sup>4</sup> Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves, but the one who prophesies edifies the church. 1 Cor 14:3-4 (NLT)

# Holy spirit is personal – Acts 9:10-17 (NLT)

<sup>10</sup> Now there was a believer in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord spoke to him in a vision, calling, “Ananias!” “Yes, Lord!” he replied. <sup>11</sup> The Lord said, “Go over to Straight Street, to the house of Judas. When you get there, ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. He is praying to me right now. <sup>12</sup> I have shown him a vision of a man named Ananias coming in and laying hands on him so he can see again.”

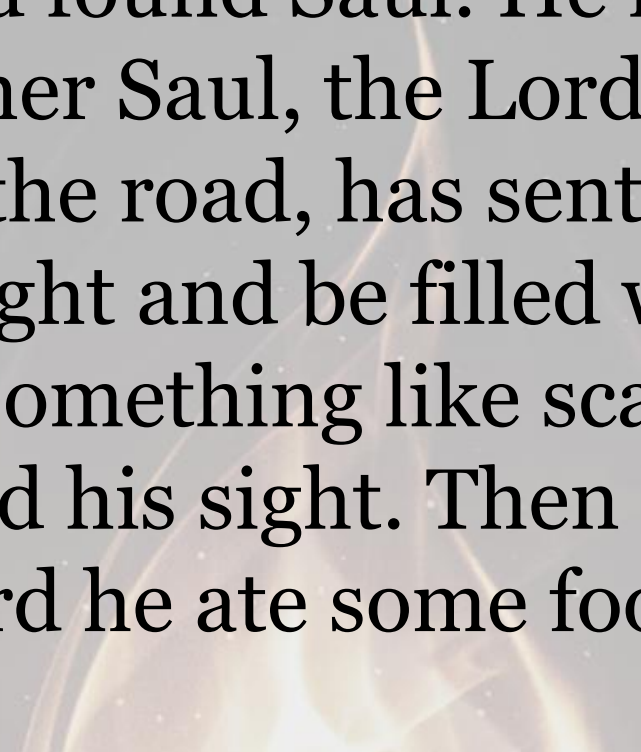


# Holy spirit is personal – Acts 9:10-17 (NLT)

<sup>13</sup> “But Lord,” exclaimed Ananias, “I’ve heard many people talk about the terrible things this man has done to the believers in Jerusalem! <sup>14</sup> And he is authorized by the leading priests to arrest everyone who calls upon your name.” <sup>15</sup> But the Lord said, “Go, for Saul is my chosen instrument to take my message to the Gentiles and to kings, as well as to the people of Israel. <sup>16</sup> And I will show him how much he must suffer for my name’s sake.”

# Holy spirit is personal – Acts 9:10-17 (NLT)

So Ananias went and found Saul. He laid his hands on him and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road, has sent me so that you might regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” <sup>18</sup> Instantly something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he got up and was baptized. <sup>19</sup> Afterward he ate some food and regained his strength.



# The holy spirit is personal

- God spoke to Annanias
- Ananias wasn't sure at first, he questions God – are you sure? In the end, he obeyed
- Ananias spoke a word of encouragement to Paul that launched his ministry!

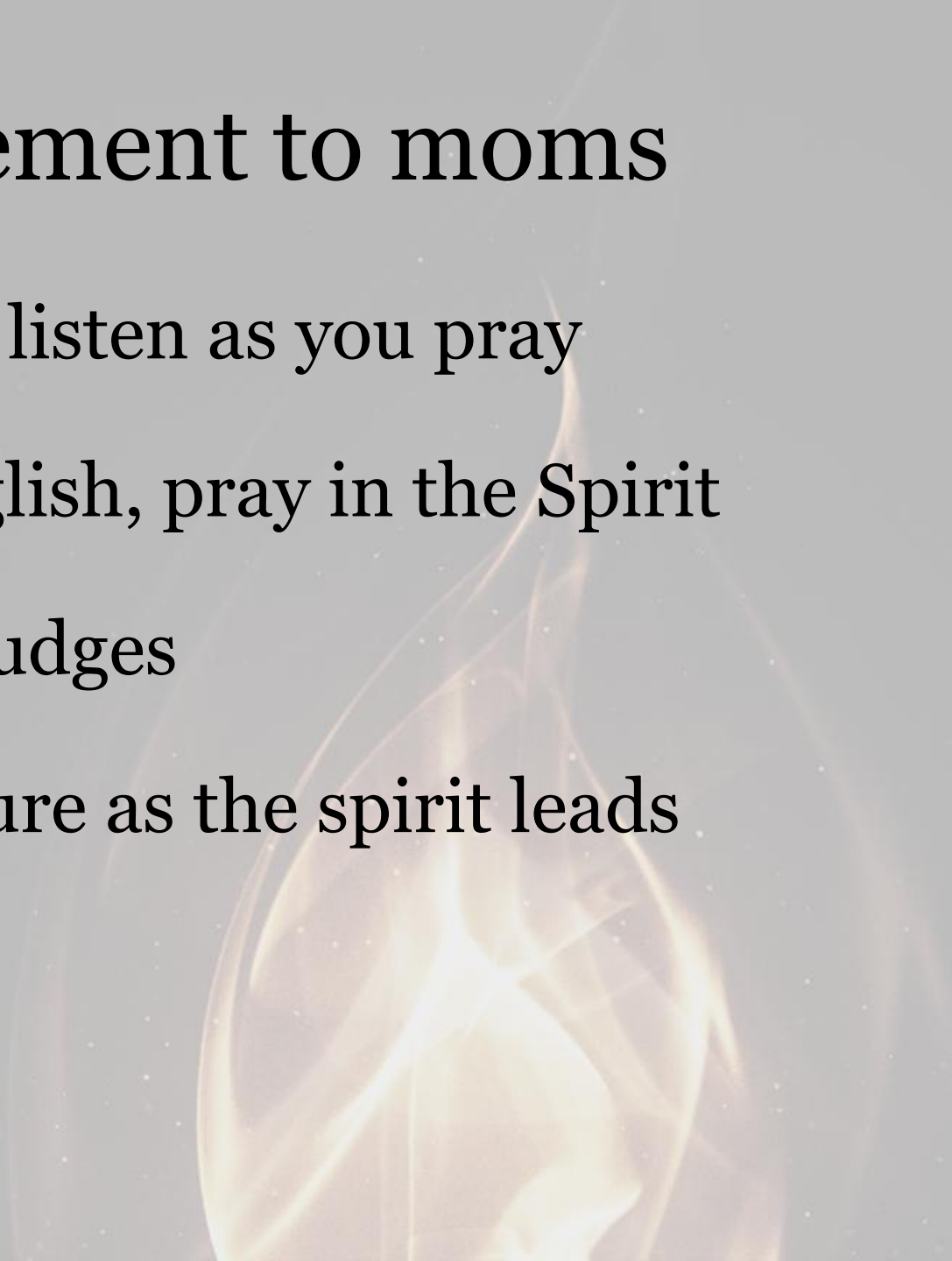
# The Holy spirit speaks to moms

“<sup>5</sup> I remember your genuine faith, for you share the faith that first filled your grandmother Lois and your mother, Eunice. And I know that same faith continues strong in you.”

2 Timothy 1:5 (NLT)



# Encouragement to moms

1. Be still and listen as you pray
  2. Pray in English, pray in the Spirit
  3. Trust the nudges
  4. Pray scripture as the spirit leads
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# In closing

- The Holy Spirit is clear, powerful and personal
- Do we know the Holy Spirit in this way?
- If we need more of the Holy Spirit – we should ask God!

