

## **Acts 2, Pastor Ritchie Johnson**

### **Study Guide - The Presence and Power of the Holy Spirit**

#### **Key Takeaways:**

1. It is right, good, and absolutely necessary to seek deeper communion with the Holy Spirit.
2. The Holy Spirit does not come according to our expectations.
3. Biblical evidence of the Holy Spirit's presence includes spiritual gifts, bold witness, and conviction of sin.
4. We should aim to stay on the "highway" between the ditches of chaos and deadness in our approach to the Holy Spirit.

#### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Pastor Richie mentioned the "highway" analogy regarding the Holy Spirit. Where do you feel you are on this highway? Are you closer to the ditch of chaos or deadness?
2. How have your past experiences or church background influenced your view of the Holy Spirit? Has this sermon challenged any preconceptions?
3. The sermon emphasized bold witness as evidence of the Holy Spirit's presence. How comfortable do you feel sharing your faith? What holds you back?
4. Pastor Richie listed several benefits of the Holy Spirit's work in our lives (e.g., fruits of the Spirit, assurance of salvation, unity in the church). Which of these do you most desire to see increased in your life?
5. How can we balance seeking the Holy Spirit's power while remaining grounded in Scripture?

#### **Practical Applications:**

1. Daily Prayer: Spend time each day this week specifically inviting the Holy Spirit to fill you and work in your life.
2. Scripture Study: Read through Acts 2 on your own, noting the evidences of the Holy Spirit's work.
3. Bold Witness Challenge: Ask God for an opportunity to share your faith this week, relying on the Holy Spirit's power.
4. Gift Exploration: Reflect on or discuss with the group what spiritual gifts you believe God has given you. How can you use them to edify the church?
5. Unity Building: Take a practical step to foster unity with another believer or within your church community.