

The Spirit empowers us for ministry!

Acts 2:1-13

1

"Missions is not the ultimate goal of the church. Worship is. Missions exists because worship doesn't."

2

Main Idea: The Spirit empowers us to fulfill God's mission; so, we step out on faith and experience the power of God.

3

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

4

⁵ Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. ⁶ And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. ⁷ And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language?

5

⁹ Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, ¹¹ both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians--we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." ¹² And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³ But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine."

6

Main Idea: The Spirit empowers us to fulfill God's mission; so, we step out on faith and experience the power of God.

7

The Spirit empowers us for ministry.

1. The Spirit brings unity.
2. The Spirit continues Jesus' mission.
3. The Spirit glorifies God.

8

1. The Spirit brings unity.

- i. Babel represent rebellion (Gen 1:28; 9:7; 11:1-9).
- ii. God demonstrates mercy to rebellious people (Isa 66:18-23; Acts 2:1-13).
- iii. Pentecost brings people back to God (Joel 2; Acts 2:17-18).

9

The Spirit reverses Babel.

Tower of Babel (Genesis 11)	Pentecost (Acts 2)
Confusion of tongues [Gen 11:9]	Understanding of tongues [Acts 2:5-10]
God scatters people in judgment [Gen 11:8]	God scatters people to spread the gospel ... to bring in the harvest [Acts 1:8]
Language promotes a human agenda : "Let's make a name for ourselves..." [Gen 11:4]	Language promotes God's agenda
Results in disunity [Gen 11:8]	Results in unity

10

The power of the Spirit enables us to:

- i. Break down cultural and ethnic barriers.
- ii. Leverage our differences for God's mission to all nations (Eph 2:14).
- iii. Unify around the gospel so that all might be saved (Rev 7:9-12).

11

2. The Spirit gives birth to the Church.

Birth of Christ (Luke)	Birth of Church (Acts)
Conceived of the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:35).	Conceived of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:5).
Visibly baptized by the Holy Spirit (Luke 3:22).	Visibly baptized by the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:3).
Makes his inaugural address, filled with the Spirit (Luke 4:18).	Makes her inaugural address, filled with Spirit (Acts 2:14-40).
Repent! (Matt 4:17).	Repent! (Acts 2:38).

12

The Church continues the mission of Christ

- i. The Church, together, continues the mission.
- ii. We are the hands and feet of Jesus!
- iii. Jesus' mission defines us.

13

3. The Spirit glorifies God.

(3 steps to see God work)

"When the day of Pentecost arrived ... there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting ... ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance ... they were amazed and astonished ... we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God ... all were amazed and perplexed"

14

Step 1: Pray hard and stand together (v. 1).

- i. They knew God's promise (v. 1:8).
- ii. In difficulty the church unified (vv. 1:14; 2:1).
- iii. The unified church prayed hard (v. 1:14).

15

Step 2: Trust God to keep promises (vv. 2-4).

- i. Great wind (v. 2; Ezekiel 37:9-14).
- ii. One fire, multiple tongues (v. 3; Ex. 3:2; 19:18).
- iii. The Spirit arriving (v. 4; 1:8).
- iv. Seeing God keep promises increases our trust.

16

Step 3: Step out on faith (vv. 5-12).

- i. To cash in on God's promises, we live by faith (v. 4).
- ii. The disciples spoke, God worked (vv. 5-8).
- iii. God works through us for his glory (v. 11).

17

Step out on faith & experience the power of God.

18