

## ACTS ALIVE- PENTECOST AND GOD'S PLAN

### Intro Scriptures:

1.

Isaiah 59:21

Psalm 116:12

2.

---Today we celebrate Pentecost, an event narrated in Acts 2 when the HP came and empowered believers.

As we heard last week, the apostles were instructed a few days before not to leave Jerusalem but wait for the promised gift, the HP. (1:8) “*they were told “you will receive power when the HP comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samiria and to the ends of the earth”*”

### Acts 2:1-13 New International Version

*When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues[a] as the Spirit enabled them. 5 Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. 6 When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. 7 Utterly amazed, they asked: “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? 9 Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,[b] 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome 11 (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!” 12 Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?” 13 Some, however, made fun of them and said, “They have had too much wine.”*

### Acts 19:1-10 New International Version (NIV)

Paul in Ephesus

Before you believe, the Holy Spirit is with you, nudging and convicting you. After you believe the Holy Spirit is in you (He indwells you); after baptism with the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit overflows in your life.

What caused Paul to ask if the believers had received the Holy Spirit?

- maybe lack of zeal or excitement.
- They have not yet had this overflow.
- Christian life is not difficult but impossible, you need the HP.

Ask the Father for the overflow of his Spirit in your life. Even now.

3.

Since the time of Cain and Abel (the first people on this earth) till today we see this kind of reaction to the things of God.....Acts 19 others were baptized and spoke in tongues...others became obstinate and refused to believe.

- Similar reactions with Jesus – As gospels unfolds u see he was either **worshipped or whipped, followed or flogged, crowned or crucified**. The presence of Jesus elicits both responses.

*All of this becomes pointedly demonstrated on the day of Pentecost*

- When the Holy Spirit demonstrates his divine presence through signs of wind, fire and speaking in different languages there were 2 different reactions:
- 1. Amazed and perplexed, what does this mean?
- 2. Some however made fun of them and said “they have had too much wine”
- Peter stands up,... fulfillment of the prophecy by Joel.  
In the last days I will pour out my spirit on all people  
Your sons and daughters will prophesy  
Your young men will see visions  
Your old men will dream dreams
- In numbers 11:27 Eldad and Medad prophesy when the Spirit rests on them.  
JOSHUA says to Moses stop them! Moses says ***“I wish all the Lords people were prophets and that the Lord would put his Spirit on them”***
- **Moses’ wish becomes prophecy fulfilled!**

In the process old and tough barriers are eliminated.

- Gone is the age barrier
- Gone is the gender barrier
- Gone are the social and racial barriers – the Holy Spirit includes and calls all God’s people.

4.

4 things that you must observe about the Pentecost Power

### 1. Prerequisite of Pentecost Power

- Together, waiting, praying (they were a collective community)

## 2. Purpose of Pentecost Power

- They spoke other languages as sign and a demonstration that God is for all nations and that the time for evangelism had come.

## 3. Particularity of Pentecost Power

- Diversity in how we respond
- Cretans and Arabs do not stop being Cretans and Arabs when the HP comes in power.

## 4. Peculiarity of Pentecost Power

- Early in the morning their demeanor was different.  
*1 Peter 2:9 "But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light".*
- Do you just blend in, in any environment?

5.

**Peter concludes his quote from Joel's prophecy with a challenge, an invitation. "And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved"**

**This is for seekers and scoffers alike, its open ended. It is for everyone.**

6.

**How do you get filled by the Spirit**

**By faith and faith alone.**

**several factors contribute to preparing your heart for the filling of the Spirit.**

**First, you must desire to live a life that will please the Lord.**

**Second, be willing to surrender your life totally and irrevocably to our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Third, confess every known sin which the Holy Spirit calls to your remembrance.**

**Summary**

- Ask for an overflow – have you received the HP since you believed.
- One accord
- Be evangelical

- Accept those who not like you
- Show that you are different
- Call on the Name of the Lord