

The Book of Acts

Week 2

Study Guide and Discussion Questions

Read Acts 2:1-21

1. In verses 2:2- 4, the Holy Spirit, the gift of the Father finally arrives with a mighty rushing wind and “tongues of fire” rest upon each one present. Imagine being in the room waiting on the Holy Spirit’s arrival and then this happens.

Some manuscripts called them “cloven Tongues” meaning split in two. The Greek word used here is *glossai*, *also spelled glossa*, which means tongue or language. It is the same word used in Mark 7:33, 35; Luke. 1:64; and 1 John. 3:18 to describe a literal tongue.

The Holy Spirit indwells the believers in the room as tongues of fire rest over each one’s head and they are given the gift of speaking in languages they did not know.

Why? Let’s read ahead – Peter who denied Jesus 3 times on the night He was taken by the guards, suddenly stands up among the crowd in Jerusalem and “Witnesses” to the crowd about the ministry and resurrection of Jesus.

The Holy Spirit enables him to do two things. What?

2. There is much controversy in the Church regarding the Holy Spirit. Let’s talk about it.

In Old Testament days the Holy Spirit was given to the servants of God in small doses, for a specific purpose. To Prophecy, to inspire writing scripture. In the New Testament, the Holy Spirit shows up a few times before Jesus ascends – Can we think of a few times?

3. In the upper room in Jerusalem, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the 120 believers.

This is not for a specific task or just a moment, but to assist the believers in accomplishing the assignment Jesus gave them. Do you remember from last week what that was?

4. In the first chapter of Acts, Jesus said that he had to return to the Father but that he was sending another to help. Remember the verses we looked up last week from the Gospel of John that describe what the Holy Spirit would do for the believers? Why did the disciples need the help of the Holy Spirit? What was their assignment?

5. Why do we need the help of the Holy Spirit? What is our assignment?

6. How does the Holy Spirit help us accomplish our assignment?

Here are a few verses to read regarding how the Holy Spirit (Holy Ghost) helps us:

Mark 13:11

1 Thessalonians 2:7

1 Corinthians 2:13

Romans 5:5

Romans 15:13

Romans 15:16

Titus 3:5

Galatians 5:22