

***Meeting the Holy Spirit***  
***Who Is He, and Why Don't We Know Him So Well?***



# ***Meeting the Holy Spirit***

- *The Spirit Before Pentecost*
- *The Explosion at Pentecost (part 2)*
- *New Life in the Spirit*
- *The Spirit and the Flesh*
- *Where the Rubber Hits the Road*
- *The Gifts of the Spirit*



# ***The Explosion at Pentecost***

- Describe the church prior to Pentecost
  - How actively involved was the Holy Spirit with things between Easter morning and Pentecost?
    - Read Acts 1:1-2
    - Read Acts 1:4-6
    - Read Acts 1:7-8
    - Read Acts 1:15-17, 20
    - How did God prepare His followers for the baptism in the Spirit that was coming?
  - As review, how was this “baptism” functionally different than when they had “received” the Spirit at Christ’s first post-resurrection appearance to them back in John 20:19-22?





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    - Read Acts 1:15-17, 20
    - Read Acts 2:1-5
      - What stands out here as the most bizarre or exciting element(s) of this episode to you? And why?
      - What reason(s) do you think that God had for doing “Pentecost” this way, and on this day?
        - In what way(s) do you see God’s Spirit working consistently from the beginning of Creation through Pentecost?



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    - Read Acts 1:15-17, 20
    - Read Acts 2:1-5
    - Read Acts 2:5-13
      - What two reactions do people have in verses 12-13?
      - Why?
      - What reaction do you think that *you* would have had, if you had been watching them that day?
        - Everyone there was there for a worship service—so what about your basic way of looking at worship would make you think that you'd have reacted that way?





# ***The Explosion at Pentecost***

- Funky little teaching moment...
  - Before we read the next verses, think about Peter
    - What do we know about what he was like under Christ's discipling?
    - What do we know about what he was like during the Passion of Christ?
    - What do we know about what he was like immediately after Christ's resurrection?



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    - **Read John 20:19-22 and think of *Peter* being there**
      - Should receiving the Holy Spirit change things in someone like Peter?
- (HINT: Remember 1 Samuel 10:6)





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  - **Read John 20:19-22 and think of *Peter* being there**
    - Should receiving the Holy Spirit change things in someone like Peter?
    - **How have you let the Holy Spirit change you?**  
(i.e.; how are *you* fundamentally different from how you were before you were a Christian—or, if that was too long ago, how are you fundamentally different from how you'd live as a *non-Christian*?)





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    - Read Acts 2:5-13
    - Read Acts 2:14-21
  - So, being familiar with the prophecy that Peter quotes, and sitting in the Temple of God on Pentecost, what would the crowd be expecting?
    - Does this help explain their reaction to his sermon in verse 37?
    - How does Peter respond in verses 38-39?
      - From what you know about baptism and about Joel and about Shavuot and about Peter and about the Holy Spirit, why does he respond this way?
    - How would you express this to anyone who might ask *you* today?
      - Why on Earth would anyone ask *you* today?



# ***The Explosion at Pentecost***

- Funky little teaching moment...
  - From verse 14 to verse 36, Peter gives his first sermon ever
    - He quotes Joel and David in the Old Testament and confidently applies them to a modern context
    - And then in one sentence (in verse 36), he confidently accuses the Jews regarding the crucifixion and affirms Jesus as his Lord and as the one, true Messiah
    - Would *you* feel confident addressing a potentially hostile crowd like this with such a strong Gospel message?
    - Would *Peter* have felt confident doing all of this a month or so before this?
      - So what changed?  
(see also Matthew 10:18-20, Mark 13:11, etc.)





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    - Read Acts 2:5-13
    - Read Acts 2:14-21
    - Read Acts 2:41-47
  - What were the end results of this explosion?
  - What exactly happened that *allowed* for these results?
  - Is the Holy Spirit able to bring about these results *even today* through *us*?
    - What would have to change for Him to do be able to accomplish that?

