

## **Connect Lesson May 17-8, 2022**

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### **“Acts 2 - Get Your Power Back”**

#### **Message Recap**

##### **I. The Enemy is After Our Power**

When our power is gone, we have confusion in our lives. Like a line of cars at an intersection where the light is out, no one is sure what to do. When we pray and are filled with the Holy Spirit, we have power and clarity in our daily decisions. We are often under so much pressure to make decisions, but we neglect to pray. Prayer equals power.

##### **II. Things that Steal our Power**

The enemy uses many things to steal our power. A few of these things are offense, fear, pride, and shame. Peter was a man riddled with shame after denying Jesus. But Peter received the power of the Holy Spirit and on Pentecost, Peter preached a powerful message and thousands were added to the church that day. When we are connected to the power source, we can walk in the power of the Spirit.

##### **III. Unity of Spirit**

When we are in unity, the Spirit of God moves. The disciples in the Upper Room were together in unity and the Holy Spirit fell on them. They were baptized in the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, and this was a sign to unbelievers around them. It was a fresh sound, with all in the Upper Room speaking languages they did not know in the natural. The Holy Spirit will empower us with signs for those who do not yet believe.

#### **Read and Discuss**

##### **Read Acts 2:1**

1. For those of us who are filled with the Spirit, do you remember a time before you were filled with the Holy Spirit? What difference have you seen in your life since?
2. Has the Holy Spirit ever given you a word for someone who was an unbeliever?
3. Are there areas in your life where you need to regain your spiritual power?

## Scripture Reading

### Acts 2:1

**1** 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<sup>[a]</sup> 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,<sup>[b]</sup> **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."

### Peter Addresses the Crowd

**14** Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. **15** These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! **16** No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

**17**

"In the last days, God says,

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.

**18**

Even on my servants, both men and women,

I will pour out my Spirit in those days,

and they will prophesy.

**19**

I will show wonders in the heavens above

and signs on the earth below,

blood and fire and billows of smoke.

**20**

The sun will be turned to darkness

and the moon to blood

before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

**21**

And everyone who calls

on the name of the Lord will be saved.<sup>[c]</sup>

**22** "Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. **23** This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men,<sup>[c]</sup> put him to death by nailing him to the cross. **24** But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. **25** David said about him:

"I saw the Lord always before me.

Because he is at my right hand,

I will not be shaken.

**26**

Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;  
my body also will rest in hope,

**27**

because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,  
you will not let your holy one see decay.

**28**

You have made known to me the paths of life;  
you will fill me with joy in your presence.<sup>[e]</sup>

**29** "Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. **30** But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. **31** Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. **32** God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. **33** Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. **34** For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,

"The Lord said to my Lord:

"Sit at my right hand

**35**

until I make your enemies

a footstool for your feet."<sup>[f]</sup>

**36** "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah."

**37** When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

**38** Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. **39** The

promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

**40** With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” **41** Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

### **The Fellowship of the Believers**

**42** They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. **43** Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. **44** All the believers were together and had everything in common. **45** They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. **46** Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, **47** praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.