

w/b 3rd November 2019

THEME: HOLY SPIRIT: PERSON, PRESENCE, POWER - HOLY SPIRIT AT PENTECOST/ THE SPIRIT INVADES. Life application

PASSAGE: ACTS 2:1-47

LAUNCH

When was the last time you were in a situation where you didn't fully understand what was going on? It may have been abroad or a complicated encounter. Describe the event and how you felt about it.

DISCOVERY

Why did Holy Spirit choose tongues of fire and a mighty wind as his calling card? What does this say about him? What does it say about the effect he should be having on us?

What is the significance of the disciples speaking in other languages that they had no knowledge of? What was his agenda in doing this?

Would you agree that as a church becomes more Spirit filled, it becomes more open to embracing people from different cultures? In what ways is he challenging you to be inclusive of people who are different to you?

What are the similarities and differences between being filled with the Holy Spirit and being drunk? How might some of the similarities help us in our witness?

Peter went from denying Christ to addressing a huge crowd at Pentecost in just a couple of days (v14). He could have written himself off but didn't. How do you sometimes write yourself off from moving in the power of God's Spirit? What does Peter's story teach you about the dangers of doing this?

The same Holy Spirit that caused great joy in believers also caused great conviction in unbelievers to such an extent that they were 'cut to the heart' (2:37 – 38). What do you think it means to be cut to the heart and can you remember this process happening to you?

Does the gospel message automatically have to involve people being 'cut to the heart'? Why or why not?

APPLICATION

Spend time praying for unbelieving family, friends and colleagues that they would experience Holy Spirit's power in conviction of sin.

Pray for one another to be so full of Holy Spirit that you too would experience a Peter-like supernatural boldness in sharing your faith.

Also pray that he would replace any self pity or fear with joy and anticipation.

Questions adapted from Woodside church USA study guide-Living outside the box. Available online.