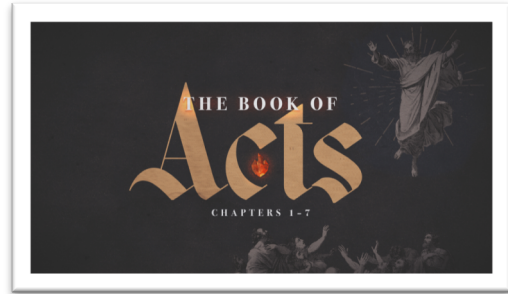


A MIGHTY RUSHING WIND

ACTS 2:1-13 // PASTOR TODD DUGARD
SEPTEMBER 22, 2019



The Holy Spirit comes suddenly, powerfully, obviously and compellingly. The study of this passage leads us to reflect on four critical questions about the Holy Spirit. Am I ready for him? (2:1-3) Am I experiencing him? (2:4) Am I amazed by him? (2:5-11) Am I responding to him with heartfelt inquiry (2:12) or with dismissive indifference? (2:13)

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Look back through Acts chapter one and the events leading up to this amazing event. Though the believers were caught off guard by the sudden appearance of the Spirit, they were indeed ready for him. How were they preparing for this moment in the period of time between Jesus' ascension and the day of Pentecost?
- While we can see certain characteristics of spiritual readiness in the disciple's lives, we can't lose sight of the fact that our actions don't predict the way the Holy Spirit moves. Why is it important to see this event as the fulfillment to Jesus' promises rather than a result of human efforts? (See Luke 24:49, Acts 1:8, John 14:16-18, John 15:26-27, and John 16:8-11 for places where the coming of the Spirit is foreshadowed.) How does this help your faith in Jesus' word?
- Consider Luke's description of how people responded to the signs and preaching. They were, "bewildered", "amazed", and "astonished". What experiences have you had with these sorts of feelings as you've been trusting the Lord and open to his leading?
- If you were in Jerusalem that day which perspective do you think you would have taken?
 - A) marveling at how fortunate you were to hear the message about God or
 - B) mocking the humble people who are sharing a message you don't care about.
 - How do you responded now when confronted with news that the Spirit is working?
- How have you taken the instruction from Ephesians 5:18 to heart and allowed yourself to be filled by the Holy Spirit? According to Ephesians 5:19-21 what are some specific activities that go along with being filled by the Spirit?