

TITLE AND NUMBER: 29. The Day of Pentecost



REFERENCE AND KEY VERSE(S): Acts 2:1-4

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak...

LOOKING FURTHER: Acts 2:5-15 and 40-41; Revelation 2:7; Acts 6:8-15; Romans 8:11

What does this Bible passage tell us?

Today, we celebrate the day known as Pentecost when God gave the gift of His Holy Spirit. When the Holy Spirit came, three things happened.

First, people heard. The disciples heard a sound like the wind. Later, the people outside heard them speaking God's message. In Revelation, the angel tells John, "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." God speaks to us and He wants us to hear His voice.

Secondly, they saw. On this occasion, the disciples saw fire, but the presence of God's Holy Spirit can be seen in many different ways. There are several occasions in the Bible where a person's face shows that they know Jesus and are full of His Holy Spirit. You can read an example in Acts 6:15, when Stephen gave his evidence at his trial before the Jewish leaders. It was reported that his face "shone like the face of an angel."

Thirdly, they received the Holy Spirit. Quite simply, the Holy Spirit is the Person by whom the risen Jesus Christ lives inside every Christian. Romans 8:11 tells us that, "If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you...He will also give life to your mortal bodies..." The Holy Spirit makes it visibly obvious to others that we have Jesus in our lives.

Later, in Acts 2, we read how many people became Christians because of what they saw and heard from the disciples that day. When we who are Christians invite the Holy Spirit into our lives, others will see the difference in how we look and how we behave; they will hear the difference in what we say; and some will want to share that experience for themselves. Maybe you became a Christian because you saw the difference Jesus made through the Holy Spirit in someone else. And maybe in the future, if it hasn't happened already, someone may receive Jesus because of what they see in you.

Reflections:

- Can you think of a time when you were drawn to Jesus because of something you saw in someone else? Thank God for that person and, if they are still alive, pray God's blessing on them now.
- God's Holy Spirit does not always come with wind and fire, but He always points to Jesus. Take a moment of quiet, sit with your palms open to God and invite the Holy Spirit to come to you now.
- Who might see and hear about Jesus through the way you act towards them? Pray for them now, and pray for an opportunity to show Jesus in the way you speak and act.

Write or draw something you read in this Bible Study that stood out to you.



Do you have any questions about this week's Bible Study?



How does this week's message apply to your life?



What can we learn about God from this week's passage?



What would you like to ask God this week?



What have you seen God do in response to your prayers this week?

