

## **Discussion Notes**

*God in Us – Baptized and Filled with the Holy Spirit*

May 8, 2016

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Having asked the question “who is the Holy Spirit?” last week, Doug turned to ask how the Spirit worked in the book of Acts after Jesus’ ascension. Once Jesus ascends, Acts show us, he becomes our “Spirit baptizer”. John states this upon seeing Jesus (Mark 1.8). We are to be indwelt and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

What is “Pentecostal”?

*“A Pentecostal is simply a Christian who believes that the book of Acts provides a model for the contemporary church.” (Menzies)*

- Globally, 1/3 of all Christians are Pentecostal/charismatic.
- Pentecostalism is the second largest tribe in the Christian faith, exceeded only by Catholicism.

### **Acts 1. 4-8**

- Already committed followers of Jesus the disciples await the arrival of the Holy Spirit as Jesus instructs.
- “Dunimus” (where we get the word *dynamite*) power comes upon them by the Holy Spirit. This an explosive power for the mission Jesus gave them.

### **Acts 2. 2-4**

- Wind, tongues of fire and they speak with tongues in other languages. All these have Old Testament allusions.

### **Acts 2. 17-18**

- Peter, now empowered stands up to address the crowd and references the prophesy in Joel.
- These are the last days, those that will last until Jesus returns.
- Peter speaks with a confidence and clarity with have yet to see from him.

### **What we learn from this narrative**

- Jesus baptizes in the Holy Spirit.
- Spirit Baptism came after conversion, a secondary experience.
- It is for all people, not restricted to the twelve Apostles.

### **Three Acts Narratives**

We see several narratives wherein, subsequent to conversion, they experience the baptism of the Spirit.

- Acts 8. 15-17 – Samaritans.
- Acts 10.44-48 – Cornelius and his household
- Acts 19. 5-7 – Ephesus

- Here we begin to see a pattern of the gift of tongues emerging in these experiences.

### **Tongues**

- What are tongues? They are a language given by the Spirit, understandable only to the Spirit. This is the Spirit praying through us.

### **Why is this second experience needed?**

- Our mission is bigger than our abilities or capacities. Jesus knew this and sent the Spirit to help us. We need the power of God to help change the world.
- In John 14 Jesus said we would do greater works that he did as his Spirit-empowered Church.

### **How do we receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit?**

- It is for us all and is a normative experience.
- The Holy Spirit will fill us but won't force anything on us.
- We can anticipate in faith this will happen.
- We can set aside preconceived notions and fear. The Lord only has good things for his people.

### **Discussion Questions**

- What did you learn from this teaching?
- Are you open to this experience? What experiences have you had in the past?
- What did you learn from this teaching that might help as you grow as a Christian?