

## THE GIFT FOR US | THE GIFT | MAY 27, 2018

### **ACTS 2:1-4**

- *The story of Christianity is a story of God drawing near.*
- *The Day of Pentecost was just that: THE HOLY SPIRIT drawing near.*
- *The Holy Spirit is the True Spirit of Jesus Christ.*

*"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 in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them."*

**TOGETHER IN ONE PLACE:** They were concerned about the same thing.

- AWARE OF OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETIC WORDS
  - Joel 2:28-30, John 14:16-18, Acts 1:8
- SPECIFICALLY FOLLOWING THE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE LORD
  - Acts 1:4
- UNITED
  - Psalm 133
- They had built an altar by creating a meeting place. This showed their intention and desire.

**QUESTION:** Our walk with God is personal and private but does it involve other people? In what ways?

### **THREE SIGNIFICANT THINGS THAT HAPPENED IN THE UPPER ROOM**

1. *What they heard - Sound of wind that filled the house.*
    - To be filled means to complete, bring to realization. It means "to make perfect". To be filled means to be prepared for the future. The spirit's gift to the church is – setting in order. To be filled with divine and eternal purpose.
  2. *What they saw - What looked like flames or tongues of fire appearing and settling on each of them in that upper room.*
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- Jesus, Spirit, like a holy fire, enlightens and purifies people so that believers can share more and more of Christ's likeness. Indeed the fire of God brings the uninterrupted privilege of being transformed which happens by experiencing faith from Him. Our lives can become true offerings to Him as we obey this imparted faith from God by His power.
3. *What they spoke – “they spoke tongues” - animates our language.*
- This is about a prayer language and an ability to speak with clarity and courage.
  - This gift addresses our natural timidity that we all experience as we walk out our calling to pray for and serve our friends and family.

### **QUESTIONS:**

1. Did the gifts of the spirit cease to exist or lose their value following the book of Acts?
2. What role do the gifts of the spirit play in a person's life and within the church?
3. The gifts were needed to launch the early church. In what ways are they needed to sustain the church?

### **SCRIPTURES TO CONSIDER**

- 1 Corinthians 12:6-11
- Romans 12:6-9
- Ephesians 4

### **GIFTS**

- Revelation gifts
  - This is the spirit animating the rational part of man. This is the power of perceiving and grasping divine and eternal things.
  - These gifts include the word of wisdom, the word of knowledge and discerning of spirits.
- Vocal gifts
  - This is the spirit animating our voice – speech. These gifts include tongues, interpretation of tongues and prophecy.
- Power gifts
  - This is the spirit animating our ministry to others. These gifts include faith, healings, and the working of miracles.

***The Story Of Christianity is a story of God drawing near:***

- Old Testament: God drew near to Israel.
- New Testament: God drew near by sending His Son Jesus
- Acts: God drew near by sending His Holy Sprit
- Revelations: God will draw near once and for all at the Second Coming