

## Filled with the Holy Spirit

### Acts 2:1-13

He's finally come. From the start of Acts we've read about the promise of the Holy Spirit coming - in fact this promise went right back to [Ezekiel 36:24-27](#). John the Baptist also looks forward to this time in [Luke 3:16](#).

Jesus sends God's Spirit to dwell in the heart of every believe, empowering them for new life and witnessing. How do we receive the Holy Spirit? [See Acts 2:37-39 and Ephesians 1:13-14](#).

#### A special day

God chose to send the Spirit on the day of Pentecost - the fiftieth day after Passover. This was a Jewish festival day celebrating the first fruits of the harvest (see [Leviticus 23 v 15-21](#)). What is the significance of sending the Spirit on this day?

#### A miraculous day

The Spirit couldn't be seen but He made His arrival known here by the presence of something like wind and fire and the speaking in other tongues. What do these three miraculous signs point to?

#### A new empowering

In the sermon, it was said that being filled with the Holy Spirit means God's Spirit ministers to your spirit that you are loved and God delights in you as his child. However, other Scriptures emphasise being filled with the Spirit changes our lives other ways. Read [Galatians 5:18-26](#) and discuss the work of the Spirit in your life changing and filling you.

#### Reversal of the Curse

From the story of the Tower of Babel ([Genesis 11:1-9](#)), we know that God punished proud humanity by giving people different languages. God marked the arrival of His Spirit with a temporary reversal of the curse of Babel. Everyone was able to hear the good news about Jesus in their own language.

Speaking in tongues has been a point of controversy and debate between different groups of Christians. Is it something we should expect today? Comparing [Acts 2](#) with [1 Corinthians 14:2](#), what is the purpose of the gift of tongues?

We will return to the issue of speaking in tongues later in the Acts series.

#### PRAY

Thank God for His love towards a sinful world. Pray for transformed, Spirit filled lives, conformed to Christ and equipped for reaching our world with the good news of Jesus.

Praise God for His Spirit!