

# SMALLL GROUP CURRICULUM

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## [ACTS 2:1-13] – [PENTECOST SUNDAY]

### Ice Breaker Question

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- Acts is a book filled with “missionary journeys”. What was your most interesting journey that included an educational or missional purpose?

### [ACTS 2:1-13] – [PENTECOST SUNDAY: BABEL REVERSED]

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- READ Acts 2:1-13. What stood out most to you from the message or the passage that was studied?
- Pastor Steve identified 3 miraculous signs marking the coming of the Holy Spirit: (The wind, the fire and the tongues). How do these signs point towards the Holy Spirit?
- John Stott said that *“Pentecost brought to the apostles the equipment they needed for their special role”*. What is your “special role” and how has the Spirit equipped you?
- Look at Acts 2:12-13 and Luke 12:49-53. Have you experienced division in your family over your commitment to Christ? What are you doing to heal that breach?

### Additional Study

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- READ Genesis 11:1-9. What was it about this sin that called for this severe judgment of confusing speech?
- READ Romans 6:1-14. This passage is Paul’s most detailed explanation of how water baptism identifies us with Jesus’ death and resurrection. In what way does being baptized in the Holy Spirit identify us in Christ?

- READ Ephesians 6:18. Paul speaks of “praying in the Spirit.” CTRL-Click on this link for an excellent article on this important topic:  
<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/how-to-pray-in-the-holy-spirit>

## 5-Day Devotional Based on ACTS 2:1-13

### Day 1: The Promise of the Holy Spirit

*“When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested<sup>[a]</sup> on each one of them. <sup>4</sup> And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.” Acts 2:1-4*

As the day of Pentecost arrived, the disciples were gathered together, waiting expectantly for the Holy Spirit, just as Jesus had promised. Their obedience in waiting allowed them to experience the profound power of the Spirit. This moment underscores the importance of waiting on God’s promises and being ready to receive what He has in store for us.

### Action Steps:

- 1. Practice Stillness:** Spend 10-15 minutes in silence today, intentionally waiting on God. Ask Him to reveal His promises to you.
- 2. Journal Prompt:** Write about a time when you were waiting for something God promised. How did that experience shape your faith?

### Prayer:

Heavenly Father, help me to trust in Your timing and to be patient as I await Your promises. Open my heart to receive what You want to give me. Amen.

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#### Day 2: The Spirit Empowers

*“And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

*Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language.”*

**The disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different languages, empowered to share the Gospel. This miraculous event highlights the transformative power of the Spirit in our lives. We are called to take the message of Christ to the world around us, and the Holy Spirit equips us to do just that.**

#### Action Steps:

- 1. Identify Your Gifts:** Write down three gifts or talents that you believe God has given you. Consider how these can be used in service to others.
- 2. Share Today:** Look for an opportunity to share your faith or testimony with one person. This could be through a conversation, text, or social media.

#### Prayer:

Holy Spirit, empower me to use my gifts for Your glory and to be bold in sharing the Gospel. Help me to realize the impact of my words and actions. Amen.

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#### Day 3: Embracing Diversity

*“And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. And they were amazed and astonished, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.” Acts 2:6-11*

**The diversity of the crowd at Pentecost is a beautiful illustration of God’s inclusive love. People from various nations heard the disciples speaking in their own languages, showcasing the universality of the Gospel. As we navigate our own communities, we are reminded that the Church is a tapestry of diverse backgrounds and stories.**

#### Action Steps:

- 1. Cultural Awareness:** Spend some time learning about a different culture represented in your community. This could include reading, watching a documentary, or attending a cultural event.
- 2. Reach Out:** Connect with someone from a different background this week. Ask them about their experiences and listen actively.

#### Prayer:

Lord, thank You for the beauty of diversity within Your creation. Help me to embrace and celebrate the differences among us and to reflect Your love to all people. Amen.

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### [ACTS 2:1-13] – [PENTECOST SUNDAY]

#### Day 4: Recognizing Reactions

*And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.” Acts 2:12-13*

The crowd’s varied responses to the outpouring of the Spirit remind us that whenever God moves, people will react differently—some with awe and others with skepticism. This serves as a reminder to remain steadfast in our faith and understanding that not everyone will accept or understand our experiences.

#### Action Steps:

- 1. Self-Reflection:** Reflect on your own faith journey. Have there been moments where you doubted? Write these down and consider how God has worked through your doubts.
- 2. Engage in Dialogue:** After identifying an area of doubt or skepticism in your faith, reach out to a friend or spiritual mentor to discuss it openly.

#### Prayer:

Father, help me to be patient and loving towards those who may not understand my faith. Give me wisdom to respond to doubt with grace, and help me to remain secure in my belief. Amen.

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### Day 5: Sharing the Good News

*“But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.” Acts 2:13*

The Spirit's outpouring at Pentecost led to a bold proclamation of the Gospel. The joy and transformation experienced by the disciples ignited their passion to share the good news. We are reminded that our experiences of God's grace should inspire us to share that joy with others.

#### Action Steps:

- 1. Write Your Testimony:** Take some time to write your personal testimony. Focus on how you came to know Christ and how He has worked in your life.
- 2. Find Your Audience:** This week, consider how and with whom you can share your story. Plan a conversation, a post, or an invitation to a church event.

#### Prayer:

Lord, thank You for the gift of Your Spirit and for the ability to share my story. Help me to communicate Your love effectively and to lead others to You through my life. Amen.