

# Lake Merced Church of Christ

## Home Groups

### What Now? - Filling of the Holy Spirit

## Ice Breaker

Do you still believe in the miraculous? Do you think God still does supernatural things in the world today? Do you believe you have witnessed supernatural things? Why or why not?

## Opening Prayer

Spend some time together in prayer as a group and pray that God would help your group better understand and listen to the voice and work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Spend some time inviting Him into your group time.

## Discussion

Read Acts 2 together as a group and then discuss the following questions as the Holy Spirit leads.

1. Can you think of a time you felt you really needed to speak up about something that would be hard to say to another person? If you can share, what was the situation and what did you do about your conviction to speak? Did you speak up or shy away from the fallout? Why?
2. In Josh's message on Sunday, he discussed what was meant when the Apostles were "filled with the Holy Spirit" in Acts 2:4. In every instance of someone being "filled" in the Bible, the person who was filled immediately begins to speak the Word of God, boldly. As you reflect on Acts 2, why do you think Peter needed to be "filled" in order to speak up?
3. Reflect on Matthew 16:21-23 as a group. Compare Peter's words in that exchange with Jesus, with his words to the crowd in Acts 2. What do you notice might be different about how Peter is able to respond in Acts than the foot-in-mouth condition Peter is often infamous for? What do you think that might suggest about the power of the Spirit in our lives?
4. In Acts 4, beginning in verse 23, Peter and John have just been released from jail and they go back to other believers to report about what has happened to them. Read their prayer (vv 24-31). What stands out to you about what the people are asking God for? How do you think that should impact the way that we pray as Christians today?
5. Both Acts 2 & 4 end with statements about believers sharing their lives with one another. We often idealize these verses and then dismiss them as irrelevant in 2019. What do you think would need to change in our church community in order to live out Acts 2 & 4 in our own lives?

## Closing Prayer

As you close in prayer, spend a few minutes praying for one another and then pray Ephesians 3:16-21 together slowly as a group. Encourage one another in the week ahead!