

5. Read Acts 2:37-41? Peter preaches a sermon appropriate for his audience—devout Jews—and the Holy Spirit brings conviction to the hearts of 3000 that day. How can you be better prepared and confident for sharing your faith with people you know and care for who are far from God?

6. Read Acts 2:42-47. Note the word “devoted” and to what they were devoted. Where is devotion lacking or soaring in your life these days?

7. Looking back over this week’s sermon and study, what one thing is most important for you to remember and apply?

Missional Application

God calls us to rely on the Holy Spirit as we share the gospel, call people to repentance and faith, and live in community.

Christ Connection

Just before his ascension, Jesus instructed his disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the Father’s promise—the Holy Spirit, who would empower Christ’s disciples to be his witnesses on earth. God gives the Holy Spirit to those who trust in Jesus as Lord and Savior, and the Spirit changes us to be more like Jesus.

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

The Spirit Who Empowers (Part 1)

“How the Holy Spirit Empowers Fearless Mission”

Acts 2

Fear doesn’t have to win.

Acts 1: ⁴ “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

Acts 1: ⁸ “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

How the Holy Spirit Empowers Fearless Mission

1. The Holy Spirit provides insight.

John 16: ¹³ “But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth.”

One reason for fear in our mission is that the Bible isn’t real to us.

Read the Bible.

- Read it for Information
- Read it for Transformation.
- Read it for Mission.

2. The Holy Spirit provides conviction.

If you want to grow in boldness, open your mouth and speak the gospel.

Deep conviction is a Holy Spirit endeavor.

3. The Holy Spirit provides a missional community.

God is ushering in a Spirit-led, gospel-saturated community—a community on mission to love each other and reach the world.

Our problem is a devotion problem.

“The church is an outpost of the Kingdom Of God in miniature. It serves as a embassy and colony the the Kingdom Of God.” (Russell Moore)

The church should look different because we believe different.

Family Discussion Questions

1. What are some obstacles our family has faced in finding true community?
2. How can our family specifically be involved in building up our church community?
3. What can we learn from the way Peter shared the gospel in this passage?

Personal Reflection & Small Group Questions

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week’s sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. When you were growing up, what is one way fear won out because you lacked the experience and maturity you now have?
3. Read Acts 2:1-13. In Acts 1:4-5 Jesus tells the disciples to wait for the Holy Spirit to come on them. The Holy Spirit comes during the feast of Pentecost. Reflect on God’s timing then and God’s timing in your life.
4. Read Acts 2:14-36. How did Jesus’ actions after the resurrection, recorded in Acts 1:1-3, help further prepare Peter for the sermon he delivered?