

***Your Life on Mission: What Does this Mean?***

***Date: 1/24/16***

**Read Together**

**Read the Scripture and overview below before your Life Group meets.**

Scripture passage: Acts 2

The essential message of the Book of Acts is about the effect of the Holy Spirit's arrival on a group of people who would be called "the church," and their place in God's mission in the world. A monumental and supernatural occurrence took place on the Day of Pentecost, wherein God gathered Jews and Gentiles, as one, and took up residence in the hearts of believers. God formed a new group – the first church. He did not leave them on their own. As promised, He sent His Spirit. Christ crucified, Christ buried, Christ Alive, Christ in His people – this was the culminating moment of Jesus' redemptive work on the Cross as His Spirit descended on and took up residence in those who would call Him Lord and Savior. What did this mean for believers then, and what does it mean for believers today? It means that the Spirit of God works in hearts and lives to engage, equip, enlighten, and empower His church to do His work and live life on mission for Him, all for His glory.

**Pray Together**

**Use the first few minutes of your lesson to lead your group in a focused prayer time.**

- **Praise** God as Faithful Father, Jesus as Savior and Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit as the source of power and enlightenment.
- **Repent** from any disobedience or complacency that hinders God's work in your life.
- **Ask** the Holy Spirit to help you discern the answer to the question, "What shall I do for the Kingdom of God?"
- **Yield** to the Spirit's power and go where God leads you.

**Discuss Together**

**Use these questions to engage in an informative and impactful discussion with your Life Group.**

- Discuss what your life was like before becoming a follower of Christ. What did you think about church? Christians? Praying? Preaching?
- Using 1 Corinthians 2:14-16 as a reference, talk about why unbelievers have such a difficult time understanding the things of God? Does this realization give you a better understanding for and sensitivity to those who have not yet accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior? How can you best pray for an unbeliever?

**Read Acts 2:1-13.**

- What was the Feast of Pentecost? (See Exodus 23:14-16, 34:22 & Leviticus 23:9-16)
- The Feast of Pentecost was a celebration of harvest and a celebration of deliverance. Discuss the significance of God sending the Holy Spirit on the first Pentecost after Jesus' resurrection.



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- The sound, sight, and speech that accompanied God's coming Spirit must have been in incredible experience, but the most monumental aspect of the Holy Spirit's arrival was that God fulfilled His promise to His people. God's faithfulness is seen in the Spirit's coming. Read the following verses that speak of the promise of the Spirit of God.

- Jeremiah 31:33
- Ezekiel 36:26-27
- Joel 2:28-32
- Matthew 3:11
- John 1:33, 14:15-21, 26-27, 15:26, 16:5-11

What does the fulfillment of the promised Holy Spirit tell you about the character of God?

What do you learn about the Holy Spirit from these verses?

- The question in Acts 2:12, "What does this mean?" is a significant question for believers today. What does the indwelling Holy Spirit mean in our lives? How has the Holy Spirit made a difference in your life?
- What has the Holy Spirit empowered you to do for the Kingdom of God?
- What do you sense the Holy Spirit leading you to do this year as you "Go There"?

#### **Read Acts 2:14-41.**

- What was the culmination of Peter's sermon? (See Acts 2:21, Joel 2:32)
- Christ crucified, Christ buried, Christ resurrected – Acts 2:21 authenticates this message. Have you shared this message with anyone recently? Will you ask God to place someone in your life you can share this Gospel message with?
- Acts 2:37 says, "When they heard Peter's message they were cut to the heart" and asked, "What shall we do?" What is your response to the coming of the Holy Spirit and the message of Acts 2?

### **Do Life Together**

**These questions are meant to encourage you to apply spiritual truth and live on mission for Jesus. It is your Life Group leader's responsibility to challenge you and hold you accountable to taking steps of growth and faith. Take these questions to heart. Allow the Holy Spirit to prompt you to grow in your role as a disciple and ultimately, a disciple-maker.**

- How has the Holy Spirit impacted your life?
- How will you respond?



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