

GUIDE FOR GROUP DISCUSSION: week of June 9th.

This study is designed to help your community group grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. There are three dimensions to following Jesus.

UP: growing in relationship with God

IN: growing in relationship with other followers of Jesus

OUT: growing in relationship with the world around us as we join God in God's mission

Getting Started:

Where do you typically go when you need a boost of energy? (Coffee? Nap? Protein Bar?)

UP: Connect with God through Spending Time in His Word

Read aloud the passage for the week: Acts 2:1-13. Allow a few moments to silently reflect on what you heard. Underline or note any words or phrases that seem meaningful.

1) Reread verses 2-3. What do you imagine this was like for the disciples? If you had been there, what would you have been thinking?

2) What positive, confusing, or negative experiences have you had in the past with the way you've heard people talk about the Holy Spirit?¹

3) How do we see the Holy Spirit working in these verses? Or, what do we learn about the Holy Spirit from these verses?

4) Reread verses 4-6. The Holy Spirit enabled the disciples to speak in languages they had not studied eliminating, in effect, a major obstacle to belief in Jesus for those in attendance. What are some of the obstacles to faith that exist for the people in your life?²

5) What implications are there in this passage about how the Spirit continues to move today?

OUT: Connect with the World Around Us (Join God in His Mission)

Take time to pray for the people you were thinking about when you discussed question four. Pray that these obstacles to faith would be removed.

IN: Connect with Each Other

Close with this ancient prayer of the church:

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.
And kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And you will renew the face of the earth.
Lord, by the light of the Holy Spirit
you have taught the hearts of your faithful.
In the same Spirit help us to relish what is right
and always rejoice in your consolation.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.*³

¹ Seth Troutt, "Group Questions: Acts 2:1-13," Redemption Gateway Church, January 22, 2017, <http://gateway.redemptionaz.com/group-questions-acts-21-13/>

² Ibid.

³ "Prayer to the Holy Spirit," Loyola Press, 2019, <https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/prayer/traditional-catholic-prayers/prayers-every-catholic-should-know/prayer-to-the-holy-spirit?p=1>.