

WORD

¹When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴And 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**

In our Scripture today, Jews of many nations came to Jerusalem for the Pentecost – a festival of thanksgiving for the harvested crops. It was also when a harvest of new believers – from different backgrounds and nationalities – were added to the church due to apostle Peter’s sermon shortly after the baptism of the Holy Spirit! How did Peter preach without the use of Google Translate to an international audience? How does the Holy Spirit enable believers to share about Jesus to different kinds of people in their lives? Today, we’re going to look at how these great works are possible at all.

1

Greater works is possible as the Holy Spirit enables us.

“⁴And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.”
ACTS 2:4

The ‘power’ that believers receive from the Holy Spirit includes courage, boldness, confidence, insight, ability, and authority. The Spirit comforts us, guides us in His truth, reminds us of what Jesus said as well as gives us the right words to say (John 14-16). During the Pentecost, the Spirit enabled the disciples to speak in other languages, which other Jews from different nations understood (Acts 2:5-7). It was the same Holy Spirit who gave Peter the words and boldness to testify about Jesus to these diverse Jews, whose hearts were then pierced. What does Isaiah 11:2 say about the Spirit of the Lord?

2 Greater works is possible as the Holy Spirit empowers us.

“And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them.” ACTS 2:3

When fire came down on many believers during the Pentecost, it meant that God’s presence was now available to all who believed in Him. Tongues symbolize speech and the communication of the gospel. Fire symbolizes God’s purifying presence, which burns away the undesirable elements of our lives and sets our hearts aflame to ignite the lives of others. When God calls us to do His will, He empowers us with His Holy Spirit. How has the Holy Spirit empowered you to do what God calls you to do?

3 Greater works is possible with the presence of the Holy Spirit

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ACTS 2:1-3

Nothing significant in us can be used or given to this dying world without the Lord’s presence in our lives. Apart from God, we can do nothing (John 15:5). In Acts 1:8, Jesus said that the disciples would be baptized with the Holy Spirit before He sends them off to do great works and be His witnesses. So, the disciples waited and prayed (Acts 1:12-13), and God revealed Himself in a spectacular way. When we face a difficult task, an important decision, or a confusing problem, do you rush into the work and just hope for the best? Or do you make your first step prayer for the Holy Spirit’s power and guidance?

APPLICATION

- Are you living a Spirit-empowered life? What keeps you from relying on the Holy Spirit?
- How can you order your day to wait to be anointed by His Spirit?
- Commit to share your testimony with a friend or family member you haven't shared with before.

PRAYER

- Pray for clarity and guidance for any current circumstances in your life that you need help with. Believe that the Lord will guide you and give you wisdom.
- Pray for hearts to be inclined towards Him. Holy Spirit's power to be a witness for Jesus.
- Pray that you'll be able to share your testimony with someone this week. Pray for God to prepare their hearts even right now.



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