

WHY LEARNING COMMUNITIES? **Circle Two Opportunity...**

To become better and better disciples of Christ TOGETHER so we can face **anything** through...

1. Deeper learning of Biblical truth
2. Stronger "iron sharpening iron" relationships

Ephesians 4:12–16 (ESV) ¹³until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. ¹⁵Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

IRON SHARPENING IRON STUFF: ➤ Herb sensing... *Nothing is a big deal to God.*

Being "Pentecosted" is really, really, really important.

Acts 8:14–17 (ESV)

Acts 19:1–6 (ESV)

Session Objective: in practical ways, how do we be Pentecosted?

1. Jesus prioritized the filling of the Holy Spirit for EVERY follower

Over and over during His ministry

Throughout Jesus' farewell discourse

During one post-Resurrection appearance He breathes on them, "receive the Spirit"

Final words were to wait for the Spirit with promise of power

2. The Acts Christians were utterly dependent on the Holy Spirit from the inside out

"full of the Holy Spirit" and "filled with the Holy Spirit" are key, essential, repeated descriptions in Acts

3. Western Christianity struggles to move from trying harder to surrendering more

4. Review Sunday

➔ Everything had been leading to this

Acts 1:7–8 (ESV) (pew Bible page 909)

➔ Jesus' followers had gone through preparation - SLO

✓ 3 years. 3 days. 40 days. 10 days, they learned to OBEY, – said "YES" with their feet

Acts 1:12–17 (ESV)

➔ The 120 vs. the 380

➔ Pentecosted

✓ disciples were obeying and cooperating together

Acts 2:1 (ESV)

✓ God fills them with the Holy Spirit convincingly as promised

Acts 2:2–4 (ESV)

➔ Root and Fruit

✓ **Root:** transformed from the inside-out to *become* like *Jesus*

PENTECOSTED is being filled with the Spirit - exchanges authority, ownership, power, purpose and more

Transformation shifts our souls from a sinful bent to a Spirit bent;

from desire to please self to desire to please God.

It does not remove temptations or the ability to disobey but it gives us the spiritual sight to see God's direction and the resources to obey.

Spirit filling has a start and then repeated refillings.

✓ **Fruit:** started *doing* what *Jesus* would do in Spirit's ability
Acts 2:14f (ESV)

✓ **Fruit:** the Spirit through Peter impacts others
Acts 2:37 (ESV)

➔ The Promise

Acts 2:38-39 (ESV)

➔ God desires for **EVERY** Christ-follower to be Spirit FILLED

➔ What must we do?

It was ALL God's doing, but the disciples had to trust and obey, to be available when God chose to work

✓ Believe God wants to Pentecost **YOU!**

✓ Want it enough to truly SLO – Surrender, Listen and Obey

✓ Pursue living SLO trusting God's timing

1. Repent of sin – a moment and a lifestyle

2. Surrender/ consecrate all we know and ask for the Spirit to fill

3. Give God first place moment by moment – the God chair/ "worship", praise, honor

4. Live in step obediently by faith not by sight

5. How do we know if we are filled?

2 Timothy 1:7 (ESV) for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

"fear" – state of timidity or cowardice due to lack of courage or moral strength

"power" – ability to perform a function, to exert force

Pentecosted people go from fearful, to courageous capable to obey

"love" – ability to do what is best for all, no matter the cost

Pentecosted people go from selfish to selflessly, sacrificially acting on others' behalf

"self-control" – ability to understand what is right and act wisely

Pentecosted people go from foolish, to discerning and living by God's wisdom

Note: Devotional is about the Spirit regenerating our hearts this week

new hunger and thirst for God's Word – desire to obey

drawn to Christ

responsive to God

increasing in fruit of the Spirit, Gal. 5:22-23

focus on serving instead of being served; selfless instead of selfish

burden for lost people

others...

6. Questions, clarifications?

Takeaways...



New Song
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