

LIFE Community Sermon Notes

Vision *Words to*
Sunday *die for***Acts 2: The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost**

1When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 2Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. 4All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

5Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. 6When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. 7Utterly amazed, they asked: "Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? 8Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language? 9Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome 11 (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" 12Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

14Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say.

22"Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. 23This man was handed over to you by God's set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men,^[d] put him to death by nailing him to the cross. 24But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him.

36"Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

37When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

38Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

40With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." 41Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

The Fellowship of the Believers

42They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. 44All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. 46Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

LIFE Community Sermon Notes

Sunday, September 9

Big Idea: We can commit to the vision of 2010 by signing up in three ways.

Key Verses: *Acts 2:42-47*

Opening Question: What is it about Lincoln's Gettysburg address that is so meaningful to you?

Questions in **bold** below are suggested focus questions.
Sections in *italics* and/or parenthesis are for the leaders notes.

Read the passage.

Discussion Questions

Bryan listed five words and their definitions for us:

1. **INCREASE:** to increase the size and diversity of the worshipping community to 5000 people
 2. **IMPROVE:** to improve the quality of life at Grace Chapel by removing the physical barriers to ministry; caring for people more effectively and becoming more faithful stewards of our resources.
 3. **EXTEND:** to release Grace Chapel people and groups to extend the love of Christ in practical ways to people beyond our walls.
 4. **EQUIP:** to discover, develop and deploy a new wave of servant leaders for Grace Chapel; the region and the world.
 5. **TRANSFORM:** to design and implement a spiritual formation model that will inspire, guide and assist people in being transformed into the likeness of Christ.
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1. Which word captures you? Why?
 2. Which word scares you? Why?
 3. How can your group begin to support these words (actually the initiatives behind them)?
 4. Do you see these words in the Acts 2 passage—or other passages from Acts?
 5. Bryan asked each person to sign up in one of three ways to commit to these words. Did you? Share with the group how you will support these words. If you did not sign up you still can by filling in the online form or signing up this Sunday.