

My Witnesses - A Study of Acts Discussion Guide: Week 7 - Acts 2:1-13

Summary of this week's teaching: Acts 2 tells of the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Jewish festival of Shavuot, more commonly known as Pentecost. While it is easy to gloss over the Spirit's arrival to "get on to the exciting parts of the book," it is vital to understand that the Holy Spirit is the key that unlocks the rest of this thrilling book. His arrival on Pentecost was earth changing!

Connect: Relational questions to get conversations started.

1. Do you know any recent graduates? If so, how did they celebrate their achievement?

Seed: The Bible, God's inspired Word, is very much like a seed- it contains everything we need to experience life. Please read the following passages of scripture as a group: (perhaps in two different translations) Exodus 3:1-6, John 3:1-8, and Acts 2:1-13.

1. What do these passages teach us about God?
2. What do they teach us about our salvation?
3. What other scriptural passages do they bring to mind?

Roots: Like subterranean tree roots which extend in all directions searching out water, each believer needs to grow and develop spiritual roots that allow us to make personal connections with our God.

1. In what ways have you noticed God's presence with you this past week? If nothing immediately comes to mind, take some time in thoughtful consideration.
2. What have you done this past week that would allow you to personally connect with the Lord, and what is He currently teaching you?

Trunk: Without trunks, plants may be large, useful, and beautiful, but they are not trees. The same is true for our faith - without it we are not saved and cannot please God. These questions will help us grow our faith in Him.

1. In what ways is our life of faith in Christ like the imagery of the burning bush in Genesis?
2. In what ways is our life of faith in Christ like the imagery of wind in John 3:8?
3. What other imagery would you use to describe life in the Spirit?

Crown: Crowns are the glory of a tree; the culmination of the roots and trunk working in harmony and can be seen for miles around. The crown of a tree represents the visible portion of our faithlife. These questions will encourage us to apply these principles into our everyday lives.

1. The crowds on Pentecost were "amazed, astonished, and perplexed." What emotions stir within you when you remember that the Holy Spirit lives with all believers?
2. The disciples' first reaction to the indwelling Holy Spirit was to tell of the mighty works of God. What mighty works of God have you seen in your life, and who needs to hear of them?

