

# SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE



**PRINCE  
OF PEACE**  
Called to Connect



## The Power

*June 8-12, 2019*

The Holy Spirit is the power that accomplishes the mission, and the Holy Spirit is the main character of the story. Promised by the prophet Joel, the Spirit now comes not just to specific people but to all people to proclaim the Good News in word and deed.

## SCRIPTURE TEXT: ACTS 2:1-13

Read the scripture text together as a group.

### BACKGROUND INFO

This event is rooted both in Old Testament prophecy and in Jesus' promise. Joel foresaw the day when God's Spirit would no longer be poured out upon specific people for a specific task. Instead, God would pour the Spirit into everyone – men and women, young and old – and they would see visions and dream dreams (aka direct revelation from God). The Spirit would comfort, enlighten, guide and lead the disciples. And in Acts 1 the resurrected Jesus tells his disciples to wait for the Spirit to empower their mission to bear witness.

All of this is fulfilled on the day of Pentecost. While the festival was originally associated with harvest and first fruits, by Jesus' day it was also strongly connected to Moses and the giving of the Law. The early Jewish disciples would not have missed the implications of this event during this festival. Paul especially highlights the contrast between a life guided by the Law and a life guided by the Spirit.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What do you think this experience was like for the believers in Acts 2?
- What's been your personal experience with the Holy Spirit? And if your answer is, "I haven't had any" why do you think that is?
- What do you think it means to be a "witness", both individually and as a church?
- What resources have we (individually and corporately) been given, but have used for our own purposes rather than for God's mission?

**APPLICATION:** How have we taken the unique gifts that God has given us (Spirit, talents, resources, experiences) and failed to steward them for the sake of our mission? This week, challenge yourself to become more self aware in the ways that you utilize and lean into your gifts. Can you shift them more towards mission? What might that look like for you?