

# Power partners

## Part 3, Acts 2:1-12

### Acts 2:1-12: the Holy Spirit comes at Pentecost

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

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

1. What role does the Holy Spirit play in the life of the believer?
2. What role does the Holy Spirit play in the life of the church?
3. What experiences have you had with the Holy Spirit?
4. Do you have any questions about the Holy Spirit?
5. Read Acts 2:1-12. Steve suggests that the fact that the tongues of fire **separated** in verse 3, means that they initially appeared as one column of fire. Do you agree?
6. Read Exodus 14:21-25, what is the connection between this story and day of Pentecost?
7. God is introducing the Holy Spirit to the early church as one who makes a way where there is no way. How important was this truth for the early church and the commission Jesus had given it?
8. How important is it for our church?
9. Jesus prepared his disciples so they would trust and depend on the Holy Spirit for their very lives, because their attitude, their commitment, their trust, their need for the Holy Spirit, all impacted on the freedom the Holy Spirit had to work in them and in the church. Paul warned the church: *Do not put out the Spirit's fire* (1 Thessalonians 5:19) because that can happen depending on your attitude towards the Holy Spirit. In what ways can our attitude impact on the freedom of the Holy Spirit?
10. Is God saying anything to you about your attitude towards the Holy Spirit?