ACTS – The Hero Jonathan Cleveland Acts 2 September 4, 2022

# **Reflection & Discussion Questions**

## Luke introduces us to the hero of the book of Acts...the Holy Spirit

The same Spirit that empowered and indwelt Jesus is unleashed.

Read and discuss Acts 2:1-4(NIV)

**2** 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.

- \*What shifts here from the way people had encountered God in the Old Testament?
- \*How can this passage help us overcome feelings of inadequacy?
- \*When is a time you have been overwhelmed by His accessibility to you?

### Peter gives the first recorded sermon by someone other than Jesus

Read and discuss Acts 2:32-38(NIV)

- <sup>32</sup> God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. <sup>33</sup> Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. <sup>34</sup> For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,
- "The Lord said to my Lord:
- "Sit at my right hand
- <sup>35</sup> until I make your enemies
- a footstool for your feet."
- <sup>36</sup> "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah." <sup>37</sup> When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" <sup>38</sup> Peter 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. <sup>39</sup> The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."
- \*What seems to be the main point of Peter's sermon?
- \*What sin 'cut to the heart' of the people?
- \*How do these words bring you hope?

#### There are two functions for gathered Christians: teaching and fellowship

Function and purpose are God ordained; form is inspired by human creativity. Read and discuss Acts 2:42-47(NIV)

<sup>42</sup> They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup> Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All the believers were together and had everything in common. <sup>45</sup> They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. <sup>46</sup> Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad

and sincere hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

\*What clarity do these verses give us about the purpose of gathering with other believers?

# If you have faith in Jesus, then you have the Holy Spirit he had

This very same Spirit lives in you.

\*What makes it hard for you to remember or believe this truth?

\*What is one thing that would change in your life if you were convinced the Spirit of God lives in you?

<sup>\*</sup>How have you seen these functions creatively expressed in different cultures, generations, etc.?