

# PENINSULA CHRISTIAN F E L L O W S H I P

## *Receiving the Holy Spirit* **John 20:22 & Acts 1:8**

*The first things He said to His followers the day of His resurrection.*

“He breathed on them and said, **“Receive the Holy Spirit.”**”

*The last thing He said to them the day of His ascension.*

“But **you shall receive power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

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**What power** does the Holy Spirit have?

What power of His **would you like** to have? (Psalm 37:4)

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*Are you bilingual?*

*Which languages to you speak?*

*How many languages are there on earth?*

*If you could speak any language **you don't speak yet...***

*Which would you speak and why?*

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**Acts 2:1-11**

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

“How is it that each of us hears them **in our native language?**... we hear them **declaring the wonders of God** in our own tongues!” (Vs. 8 & 11)

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**What was the Holy Spirit doing... and why?**

*Had God given any reason they may have anticipated this?*

- Peter suggested the prophet Joel

*Anything else? Maybe more important than that?*

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*When did God originate our faith, and how?*

**Genesis 12:1-3**

The LORD had said to Abram, “**Leave your native country**, your relatives, and your father’s family, and go to the land that **I will show you**. I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and **you will be a blessing to others**. I will bless those who bless you and curse those who

treat you with contempt. **All the peoples on earth will be blessed through you.**"

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So, **what did God do** on Pentecost, and **for whom?**

- **He empowered** His servants to make Him known beyond their ability
- **He awakened** former strangers to the wonders of who He is
- **He demonstrated** to the Jews that He didn't call other to be as they are

The foreigners there came to become like Jews

They had been told that's what God requires

Are Christians liable to fall into the same deception?

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What language barriers might we hope to cross?

- How about generational barriers?
- How about racial barriers?
- How about social barriers?
- How about economic barriers?
- How about gender barriers? (Men & Women both)

People in those distinctions, and more don't speak Christianese

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**William Booth** – Learn who they are and meet them there as equals

Do not expect them to come to where you are (Not geographic)

**Jesus didn't**

Value them **as** they are, **where** they are.

**God does**

They already bear **His image and likeness**

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What did the Holy Spirit **empower them to do** on Pentecost?

Discard the **human barriers and deceptions** that keep people from knowing who He really is. (John 15:26)

He still does. **Ask Him to do that in your life**

- **He will lead you** places you didn't expect
- **And empower you** beyond your ability
- **To make Him known** to people who don't know Him yet

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**John 1:18 & 20:21** (right before 20:22)