



Worship Guide for *November 18 2018*

Sermon Notes

The Holy Spirit Came

Acts 2: 1-13 (pew Bible pgs. 909-910)

In his book, *The Rise of Christianity*, Dr. Rodney Stark asks, “Finally, all questions concerning the rise of Christianity are one: How was it done? How did a tiny and obscure messianic movement on the edge of the Roman Empire dislodge classical paganism and become the dominant faith of Western civilization?”

The movement started out with 12. It grew to 120 in three years. Then in one day it added 3000. By the fourth century, the number of Christians was estimated to be almost 34 million (Stark). How did this happen? What happened in the lives of a few ordinary, mostly uneducated people, that transformed them into world changers? Today’s passage gives us the foundational answer. Without warning, and in an extraordinary way, the Holy Spirit came, and everything changed.

The Holy Spirit came: what was Pentecost and why does it matter?

The Holy Spirit came, and something happened *to* the disciples.

The Holy Spirit came, and something happened *in* the disciples.

The Holy Spirit came, and something happened *through* the disciples.

Applications:

Because the Holy Spirit has come:

You can be saved.

You can be filled.

You can have assurance.

You can have understanding.

You can live in hope.

You have a mission and a message.

Life Group Guide

Sunday

In your journal, reflect on today's sermon by answering the following:

I never knew:

I was challenged:

I was reminded:

I was convicted:

A question I still have:

A truth I could share:

Know

Monday

Spend some time today doing the following:

Read the sermon passage again.

Select a portion of this week's sermon passage to memorize this week.

Write your selected portion and read it to yourself at least 10 times throughout the day.

Know > Be

Tuesday

In your journal, spend some time writing about the following:

Read the sermon passage again.

Write a prayer of response, guided by the passage.

(May include adoration, confession/repentance, thanksgiving, petition, etc...)

Write your selected portion of the Scripture several times to aid in memorization.

Be

Wednesday

Think about this week's questions for group discussion:

What practical difference does the reality of the presence of the Holy Spirit make in your life as you live day to day?
What difference *should* it make?

How does the presence of the Spirit work to sync our hearts with the heart of God? How do you see this reality in your own life?

How would you like to grow in your understanding of the person and work of the Spirit? What practical step can you take to do that? How can your group pray?

Be > Do

Thursday

In your journal, spend some time considering the following:

What insights have you had while internalizing this week's passage?

How specifically will you seek to apply its truths in your home/workplace/life in general?

Do

*Use this guide to help you internalize this week's passage & message.

Westwood Staff

Gerald Hodges: Lead Pastor

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Upcoming Events

November 20 - Thanksgiving Dinner & Service

November 22-23 - Church Office Closed

November 25 - Decorate for Christmas

December 1 - Men's Fellowship Breakfast

December 2 - Lottie Moon Mailbox opens

December 7 - Parent's Night Out