

ICB COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY

WHAT DO WE DO: A JOURNEY THROUGH THE BOOK OF ACTS

The message last Sunday, continued our new series What do we do. This week we look at the upper room story, when the promised Holy Spirit descended on all the believers there and the influence it had on them.

START

Icebreaker: Our lives are influenced by many different people over the years, from those around us, to famous people and historical figures. If you could spend a week learning and picking the brains of someone from the past (famous or not) who would it be and why?

SHARE

- The presence of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers throughout the centuries has brought about life changing events, and is the reason Christianity is where it is today. Describe a time in your life where you have experienced or felt God's presence in a real way, personal to you?

READ EXODUS 33:12-18

- Why was God's presence so important for Moses and the nation of Israel?
- What does it mean that God knew Moses' name?
- What lessons can we learn from Moses here?

READ ACTS 2:1-12

- Imagine you were there on the day of Pentecost. What do you think it would have been like for you as one of the crowd looking on?
- Why are all these different places mentioned (9-11)? Why do you think that Luke (the author of Acts) gave such a detailed description?
- The audience most likely spoke Greek as well as their native tongue. Why do you think that God had them hear the message in their own language?
- How did the people respond to what they had seen?

GROW

- What do these two passages teach you about God and the Holy Spirit?

- Why is the presence of the Holy Spirit so necessary for us as believers nowadays?
- In what ways are you aware of the Holy Spirit strengthening and encouraging you as you meet the challenges you face today? In what areas of your life do need to let Him work in you more?

PRAY

Ask God to make the power of the Holy Spirit come alive in your life, and pray that God will use you through that power. Pray for a greater awareness of the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life, and that you could be quick to respond to his gentle nudgings.

GO

As we go throughout this week, be reassured that as sons and daughters of God we can know that He is always with us because of the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives (Ephesians 1:13-14). Take comfort in that, knowing that in every situation and circumstance we face, we are not alone and because of the Holy Spirit in us we are capable of living out the mission God has given us!

Read more about Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2:1-13, and the complete story of Moses and the Israelites in Exodus 1-20 and 32-33, Numbers 11-21 and Deuteronomy.