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# Shepherd's Path

## A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Jesus Is Lord of All Series, Lesson 51

**Lesson Title:** Pentecost

**Take Home Point:** We can ask to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

### Warm-Up:

Imagine you are completing the last phases of a getting a new job. You have gone through the multiple interviews. You attended the orientation session. You filled out all the forms for benefits and legal purposes. Now your new employer says, "We are not quite ready for you. We need a few days to get everything prepared for you. We need you to wait until preparations are finished. While you are waiting, there are a couple of things you can do. First, continue to review the materials we gave you so you understand our way of doing business. Second, call at least once a day to see if we are ready for you. It won't be an interruption when you call; we want you to do it." What is your response? Do you say, "No way! If you want me, you call me. I'm not calling you!" Or do you do as requested, make the call and ask about progress toward getting to work?

**Read:** Acts 2:1-41

### Observation (What happened?):

What were the three signs of the Holy Spirit's arrival? What amazed the people?

What effect did Peter's speech have on the crowd that was gathered?

### Interpretation (What does it mean?):

How do you think the disciples felt as this event was occurring?

Why did these Jews believe the words about Jesus when a few weeks before he was crucified in the same city? What was different?

### Insight:

The speaking of different languages in this event is so significant. Since the time of the Tower of Babel recorded in Genesis 11, people groups had been separated by language barriers. Here at the scene of the Holy Spirit inhabiting his people, God sent a clear message that the gift of life in Jesus and the subsequent gift of the Holy Spirit were for the world, not just those who lived in Jerusalem. What does the gift of the Holy Spirit mean? We have to go further into the New Testament to find out. In Romans 8, we read that the Spirit guides us, helps us in our weakness, and intercedes for us before God. In Ephesians, we are told that the Spirit seals us in Christ, gives us unity, and supplies us with the Word of God as our sword to fight evil. In Hebrews, the Holy Spirit is presented as our teacher and encourager. In 1<sup>st</sup> Peter, we learn that the Spirit is our strength in evil times. In 1<sup>st</sup> John, we are taught that he is our truth, speaking to us and through us. What a wonderful gift we are given when we ask to be in God's family!

### Application (What does it mean to me?):

How do you know you have received the Holy Spirit?

What about you is different since the Holy Spirit filled you? Can others tell?