



# Shepherd's Path

## A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Jesus Now... Series, Lesson 50

**Lesson Title:** Pentecost Power

**Take Home Point:** The Holy Spirit gives us power to witness.

### Warm-Up:

Imagine the activities of a person getting prepared to open a new business. The location has been picked out, the remodeling is complete, and the shelves are getting stocked with merchandise. In the course of remodeling, the owner has ensured that the best lighting fixtures are used, just the right kind of plumbing is installed, and the gas furnace is a quality unit built to last for many years. In order to advertise the new business and attract customers, a distinctive neon sign is placed above the entrance to the store. Opening day comes, but unfortunately one small item has been left undone – there is no connection to external electrical power! The automatic doors won't open, the lights are off, the cash register and scanner don't work, and the neon sign is dark! Without power from the right source, nothing happens!

**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 Peter, we learn that the Spirit is our strength in evil times. In 1 John, we are taught that he is our truth, speaking to us and through us. What a wonderful gift we are given when we are in God's family!

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

How do you know you have received the Holy Spirit?

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

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