

## Small Group Material - Acts, Peter Used by God to Grow the Church - Peter, transformed by the Spirit Acts 2.1-6, 12-23, 32-39

**Welcome** (10 mins) Have you ever travelled where you did not speak the language? What happened?

**Worship** (10 mins) Use the time as you watch this video to open yourself to God: Holy Spirit, Jesus Culture  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eFByOX8Fb0M>  
Spend some time in praying for God to come through his Holy Spirit.

**Word** (30 mins)

*After Pentecost Peter was transformed by the Holy Spirit. He preached powerfully, performed many miracles, became a bold witness for Christ and his prayers were full of faith. The Holy Spirit is available for us today to empower and transform us.*

**Read Acts 2.1-6**

- Why did God wait until Pentecost, a Jewish harvest festival of Deut 16.9-10, to give the Holy Spirit?
- What do you think is the significance of the wind v2, the tongues of fire v3 and the gift of tongues?
- Have you ever seen the gift of tongues used in this way? Another way?

**Read Acts 2.12-23**

- Compare Peter and the other disciples in John 18.25-27, 20.19 with their actions here. What accounts for the great difference?
- In what way is Luke 24.44-49 reflected in this sermon?
- What do you notice about Peter's preaching? What is the point Peter wants the people to understand about these current events, cf v15, 17-18?
- How do you understand v19-21? What tells you that Joel's prophecy is coming true now?

- Given the audience why would Peter quote so much from the Old Testament?

**Read Acts 2.32-39**

- From Peter's message to the crowd, especially his conclusion in v36-39, how would you explain to someone what it means to become a Christian?

**For reflection and discussion**

- In what ways was the Holy Spirit working in and through Peter? How was he changed? How did God go on to use Peter? (Use your general knowledge of Scripture)
- In comparison to what the disciples experienced when the Holy Spirit came upon them, how would you describe your past experience with the Holy Spirit and your present experience?
- Pray for one another for a fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit...!

**Witness** (20 mins)

**Ask someone in advance...!**

**'This time tomorrow'** Over the next few weeks, for the Witness section, we will suggest you ask one person from your group to share a bit about what their life is like day-by-day, what particular challenges they face and opportunities they have. *What is on their 'frontline'?*

Here are some questions which might help:

**Presence:** How and where do you sense God's presence?

**Pressure:** Where are you feeling pressured?

**Purpose:** What do you feel is your purpose?

Pray for that person, perhaps listening to see if God gives anyone a picture, Scripture, word of encouragement etc for them.