

# PENTECOST SMALL GROUP SUNDAY STUDY GUIDE

June 5, 2022

“The Spirit of Pentecost”

## OPENING PRAYER

O Gracious God, today we pray that we would grow in our awareness of the Holy Spirit. We are startled by the description of wind, fire, and speaking of new languages, and how powerful that experience must have been for those first followers of Jesus. Our hearts break over the evil we see enacted in our world today. Please send us a fresh and powerful wind of your Spirit, bring us hope, and guide our study today. We pray in the name of your Son, with gratitude for His Spirit’s wind at Pentecost. Amen.

## SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

### Acts 2:1-13 (NIV)

*When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.<sup>2</sup> Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.<sup>3</sup> They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.<sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.*

*<sup>5</sup>Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven.<sup>6</sup> When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken.<sup>7</sup> Utterly amazed, they asked: “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans?”<sup>8</sup> Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language?<sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,<sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome<sup>11</sup> (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!”<sup>12</sup> Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?”*

*<sup>13</sup>Some, however, made fun of them and said, “They have had too much wine.”*

### Acts 2:42-47 (NIV)

*<sup>42</sup>They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.<sup>43</sup> Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.<sup>44</sup> All the believers were together and had everything in common.<sup>45</sup> They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.<sup>46</sup> Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts,<sup>47</sup> praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.*

# SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

*June 5, 2022*

## Pentecost Sunday: “The Spirit of Pentecost”

### INTRODUCTION

The story of the first Pentecost is a marvelous story that many Christians find hard to understand. The Holy Spirit breaks onto the scene with the sound of a rushing wind, hovers like tongues of fire, and a diverse group of people are able to hear and understand each other, despite speaking different languages. Through the local church, God has given us a family. Despite our many differences, we are to be a family marked by unity, generosity, and joy. As we connect with other believers, we find people who will love and encourage us as we seek to become more like Jesus and fulfill His plan to make disciples.

### QUESTIONS

1. When the Holy Spirit filled the believers what did they do? How did the crowd respond?
2. If you saw these events at Pentecost, how do you think you would have responded?
3. When has the Holy Spirit enabled you to do something that you did not think you could do? Where were you, and what was the outcome?
4. Are there areas of your life that you think prevent the Holy Spirit from moving in your life? What do you think might be hindering your spiritual life?
5. Read Acts 2:42-47. Are you surprised at the way the church functioned at that time? Why?
6. How do you think we might cultivate more sensitivity to the Holy Spirit in the church? What could you imagine would be the outcome?

### FINAL APPLICATION

Pray that the Holy Spirit would fill our Asbury community with a new wind, set our heads on fire, and give us tongues to speak in a way that brings new understanding! Consider how you can help create a community marked by hope and grace for all of our children and youth. Get to know one of the youth you do not yet know, and pray for the Holy Spirit to fill them and guide them.