



ACTS: LIVING ON MISSION

Acts 2:1-13

Week of July 9, 2023

Start at 9:45-9:55

Belong: *Use 5-10 minutes as an opportunity to get to know one another. The questions below are written for people to open-up and to know the group members.*

Take a **few minutes** to hear about your group members' week.

Choose two of the questions below:

- Ask about highs or lows that have happened since the last time you met.
- **Or, What everyday expressions can you say in another language?**
- **Or, If you could speak another language fluently, which one would you choose? Why?**

How has God revealed Himself to you this week?

9:55-10:05

Believe: *Use 5-10 minutes to read this week's assigned Scriptures then highlight each verse that helps you to understand the passage better. Include the book, chapter and verse(s).*

For the remainder of the year, we are going to look at the Book of Acts. The "Acts of the Apostles," is a unique book in the New Testament. Acts follows the 4 Gospels of Jesus Christ - Matthew, Mark, Luke & John - which give an account of Jesus' ministry, death, and resurrection. Acts is also a continuation of the gospel of Luke...AND is written by the same author. The Acts of the Apostles introduces us to the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, the conversion & ministry of Paul as well as the spread of the Gospel from Jerusalem...to Judea...to Samaria and then to the ends of the earth.

Have a group member read **Acts 2:1-13**. In this section of Scripture, Luke provides us with a description of the events which occurred on the day of Pentecost - when the promised Holy Spirit rushed into the upper room.

10:05-10:20

Build: *Use about 15 minutes to engage the passage and wrestle with its meaning.*

What is unique about the day of Pentecost as described by Luke?

- What signs at Pentecost stand out to you the most? Why? **[vss 1-4]**

Why do you think it was necessary for the Holy Spirit to arrive in such a spectacular way the first time? Do you think it's necessary now?

How many languages did the Holy Spirit cause the people to speak at Pentecost? **[vss. 6-11]**

- What's the purpose in speaking "in other tongues?"

How are the events of Pentecost connected to Jesus' ascension & selection of Mathias?

- What do you think the Holy Spirit caused them to speak about?

What did the crowds say caused these languages to come from the apostles' mouths? **[vs. 13]**

10:20–10:35/40

Become: *Use about 15 minutes to apply what you have read. How can this help me? What would the application of this verse look like in my life? What is God saying to me?*

"Pentecost" was an important pilgrimage feast for the Jewish people. The people celebrated Pentecost 50 days after Passover. Pentecost is traditionally a time to give thanks and present offerings/ sacrifices for the new grain of the summer wheat harvest in Israel.

- In your opinion, how important were the feasts to the Jews for them to travel as far as they did AND what kind of sacrifices would they make to go?
- What do you sacrifice to attend church and worship God?

When we discuss Pentecost, what do you think makes the events of Pentecost unique?

- What are the ongoing effects of Pentecost that the church is experiencing today?
- Do we see these ongoing effects at FBC Portland?

What clues are we given here that Pentecost signals the intent of the Great Commission?

How conscious are you in your daily life of being filled with and empowered by the Holy Spirit?

- What steps can you take to rely on the Spirit more?

10:35/ 10:40 – Class ends at 10:45

Begin: *Use the last 5–10 minutes for prayer. It's important that we not only hear and discuss God's Word but respond to it. (James 1:22)*

**Do you see any of God's attributes in this week's passage that struck out to you?
How should it change the way you pray, think, speak or act this week?**

At the end of the conversation, spend some time praying as a group. Here are some prompts:

- Spend some group time-sharing requests and praying specifically for them.
- Spend some time praying for FBC and that we would be encouraged and hopeful in how God is working in and through FBC Portland.

Additional Resources:

Blue Letter Bible: Acts 2:1–13: Check out the QR code to learn more.



Precept Austin: Acts 2:1–13: Check out the QR code to learn more.

