

THE STORY OF GOD: THE DAY OF PENTECOST

ACTS 2:1-4 — FEB. 14, 2010

Why is the Holy Spirit so important?

Because our highest joy is knowing, feeling experiencing God —
And we can only know, feel, experience God by the gift of the Holy Spirit.

How did people experience the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament?

Very much like we do today, except that they did not experience the Spirit making real to them the crucified and risen Jesus (since that had not yet happened).

See Psa 16:11; Psa 51:11; Jer 2:12-13; Luk 1:41,67.

What happened at Pentecost?

Acts 2:1-4

This marked the beginning of a new day in God's plan for the world.
God lavishly and broadly poured out His Spirit.

Who gets to receive this gift of the Holy Spirit?

John 7:37-39

Before: a thirsty heart. After: a heart so filled that rivers of living water flow out.
This happens to everyone who believes in Jesus.

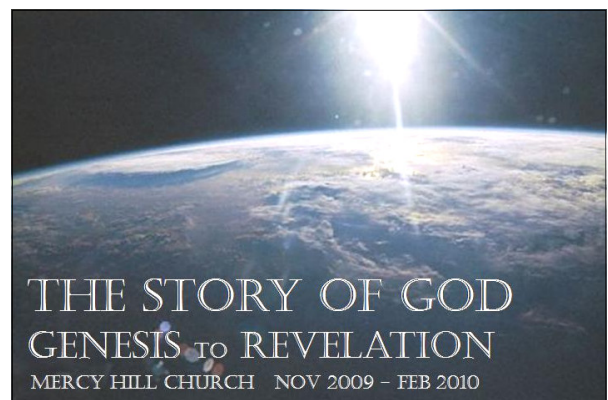
How can I experience more of this work of the Spirit?

The faith that receives the Spirit involves

Repenting (Acts 2:38)

Setting my heart upon the truth of Jesus (Gal 3:5)

Asking God to give more of His Spirit (Luke 11:13)



HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING

What was the Holy Spirit saying to you Sunday through this passage?

What questions, ideas, objections, encouragements did you come away with?

Does it make sense that your heart can only be fully and lastingly satisfied in knowing, feeling, experiencing God?

Does it make sense that no one can experience or feel God apart from the gift of the Holy Spirit? Why or why not?

Do you agree that tongues is not the main point of Pentecost? Why or why not?

Does Jesus *really* promise that everyone who believes in Him will have rivers of living water flowing from his or her heart? What questions does that raise in your mind?

How regularly do you experience the Spirit enabling you to feel the truth of Jesus? (Be honest.) What could you do to experience this more? What's it worth to you?

What's your take-away from this message? What are you going to do differently? When? How?

Share prayer requests that come up in the discussion, jot them down below, and pray for each other.

