

Digging Deeper: Acts 2:1-13

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Day 1

Start the new year with a Bible study journal for 2022, it's a terrific way to capture your thoughts, ideas, and prayers. You can use any kind of notebook, even inexpensive school composition notebooks. Pray for God to help you understand His Word. Read Acts 2:1-13. What comes to your mind when someone mentions "the Holy Spirit?" How do you think about the Holy Spirit in relation to God and Jesus? How do you describe the Holy Spirit to others?

Day 2

Pray. Praise God. Thank Him for all He has done for you. Ask God for the forgiveness of sin in your life. Read Acts 2:1-13. Thinking about the Holy Spirit, check out Isaiah 11:1-3. How many characteristics of the "Spirit of the Lord" do you find in these verses? Pray and think about each of these characteristics. Write down (and even better, discuss with a friend or with your life group) what each of these means to you.

Day 3

Find a quiet place. Settle your mind and spirit. Make time and space to listen for the Holy Spirit and learn from Him. Bring your requests to God. Read Acts 2:1-13. These events happened during Pentecost (also known as the Festival of Harvest, check out <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shavuot> and also Deuteronomy 16:16), celebrated 50 days after Passover; a number of weeks had passed since Jesus was killed and rose on the third day. What happened when the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit? See verses 3 and 4.

Day 4

Pray and ask God how you are supposed to be a good friend and neighbor today. Read Acts 2:1-13. In verse 3, the tongues of fire are foretold. See Luke 16. In verse 4, being filled with the Holy Spirit is also foretold. See Joel 2:-29. Pentecost also celebrates the day God met with Moses on Mount Sinai (check out Exodus 19:16-18). What do Exodus 19 and Acts 2 have in common for the people who witnessed both events?

Day 5

Pray. Ask God who it is you are supposed to encourage today. Check-in with them, call, text, send a note and share an encouraging word. Read Acts 2:1-13. Compare verses 3 and 4, with Genesis 11:1-9. What does Acts 2 have in common with Genesis 11? How are the two events very different? What was God doing in Genesis 11? What is God's Spirit doing in Acts 2? Why are the events in Acts 2 important for the new Jesus followers?

Day 6

As you pray, reflect and discuss with the Holy Spirit about the past days and how you can apply what you learned this week for His glory. One last time, read Acts 2:1-13. In some recent charismatic churches, those speaking in tongues are unable to be understood because they aren't speaking a language. In verses 5 through 12, we read that spontaneous foreign languages were being spoken and understood rather than gibberish. What is the significance

of people from all over the Mediterranean understanding God in their own native language?
Is there a lesson here that we can apply today in how we inspire church unity and share God's word in more effective ways?