

ENTER God's presence

Psalm 147:1-6

- ¹ Praise the Lord.
 How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise him!
 ² The Lord builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the exiles of Israel.
 ³ He heals the broken-hearted and binds up their wounds.
 ⁴ He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name.
 ⁵ Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit.
 ⁶ The Lord sustains the humble but casts the wicked to the ground
- Pray: Lord of compassion and power, you bind up our wounds, you lift up the humble, you speak healing where there is hurt. As we gather in your name and around your word, give us ears to hear your voice, hearts to receive your grave, and faith to rise when you say, "get up and walk!" In Jesus name, Amen.



- 1. What are your highs and lows since you last met?
- 2. What recreational activities do you like to do that 'recharge' your batteries?
- 3. When have you been consciously aware that God was asking you to do a specific task? Did you do it? How did that go?

Power – it makes stuff happen. Without it we have little capacity to do anything of significance. The problem is that there are all sorts of different kinds of power, power sources, and ways to use power. Some for good and some for evil. And, as a frequently quoted line from a famous super hero movie says, 'With great power comes great responsibility.'

Week beginning: Monday 2nd June 2025

Worship series:
Power Tools
#1 Fully Charged





VERSE for the week

"No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: 'In those days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams."

> Acts 2:16-17 (Full Text – Acts 2:1-21)



You already have everything you need to proclaim Jesus to your community in whatever language they can understand.

Before he ascended into heaven, Jesus promised his disciples that they would receive power when the Holy Spirit came upon them, but it was to come upon them to empower them for a specific purpose which Jesus had given them – to be his witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. A few weeks later, on the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit did come upon them and they were indeed given the power necessary to proclaim Jesus to all the world.

Read the passage from Acts 2:1-21 here, or in your own Bible.

- 4. Try to summarise the main idea of this passage.
- 5. What verse/concept/teaching in this reading caught your attention and what was challenging/confronting/comforting about it for you?
- 6. What unusual signs or events happened when the Holy Spirit came on the disciples? What might these signs/events tell us about the work of the Holy Spirit?
- 7. How did the crowd react to what they saw and what they heard?
- 8. Why do you think Luke (who is widely considered to be the author of Acts) was so particular about where everyone was from? What might be the significance of this?



What happened on the day of Pentecost was powerful, dramatic, and life-changing — not just for those first disciples, but for the whole world. But Pentecost isn't just a one-time spiritual event in history. It's the beginning of God's ongoing work of empowering His people with the Holy Spirit. The same Spirit that filled the disciples still works in and through us today.

- 9. Why do you think Jesus told the disciples to wait for the Holy Spirit before beginning their mission? What does that say about the source of spiritual power?
- 10. How does it change your understanding of the Holy Spirit to think of Him as God's power for living out your faith, rather than just a feeling or mystery?
- 11. In Acts 2, the Holy Spirit empowered the disciples to speak so others could understand the message of Jesus. In what ways might the Spirit empower you to share Jesus today even if not through words.
- 12. When have you experienced a moment where you felt "charged" or empowered by God to act, speak, or serve? What was that like?



MAKE IT REAL:

The Holy Spirit wasn't given just to inspire the disciples for a moment — He was given to **empower them for a mission** that would change the world. That same Spirit has been poured out on all believers so that we, too, can live as God's people in the world: with courage, love, wisdom, and power. Living "fully charged" doesn't mean we do more for God — it means we live from the strength and guidance He provides with full access to the newness of life that is at work in us by his Holy Spirit.

- 13. Where in your life right now do you need God's power not just your own effort to live faithfully as a disciple of Jesus?
- 14. What is one thing you could do this week to become more aware of the Holy Spirit's presence or leading in your daily life?
- 15. Who might God be calling you to speak to, serve, or encourage trusting that the Holy Spirit will empower you to do it?

Plan your weekly devotions or download the Church Central app for the daily LifeWay Devotions



- Praise the Father, for inviting us to work with him in His mission to retore the world to himself.
- **Thank Jesus** for sending the Holy Spirit to empower us to do the work he has called us to do as his disciples.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to grow you in obedience and wholeness so that others might see the fulness and wholeness of the life you have in Jesus.
- Pray for all the LifeWay staff, particularly those at the Mission and ministry conference this week.
- Pray for all of LifeWay as we grow into this next season of our lives together as God's people, living his love, sharing his hope with all, and growing in grace together.



You might like to address one person in your group and make the sign of the cross on their forehead or on the palm of their hand as you say...

[Name], The Holy Spirit of God is at work in you and through you. Amen.