

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL – Fall 2024 – FBC

### The Life of Peter

#### Lesson #6 – “The Experience of the Spirit”

Texts: Acts 2:1-33 and Acts 4:1-22

Up until now we have looked at Peter as a disciple of Jesus – learning and growing in his relationship with his Lord and Saviour. His last experiences in the Gospels included a moving last supper (with a humbling foot washing experience), an assertion that he would “give his life for Jesus”, a deeply disappointing denial, a hard-to-believe and amazing resurrection and a restoration/affirming personal conversation with Jesus. We now move to looking at Peter as “an apostle”, a “sent out one”. ***Question to ponder: How does the Holy Spirit ‘change’ Peter?***

In his book about Peter, Larry Helyer suggests that Peter opens 3 specific “doors” with the “keys to the kingdom” which Jesus gave to him. (Matthew 16:19 says “I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven and whatever you loose on earth, will be loosed in heaven.”) These “doors” allow (invite) 3 people groups into the new community which the risen Lord is building via the disciples. Note what group Peter invites in the story from Acts 2.

1. By way of background; Pentecost is not a new Christian celebration but rather is one of 3 great festivals of the Jews (along with Passover and Feast of Tabernacles). It took place 50 days after the Passover and emphasized the giving of the Law to Moses and the harvest thanksgiving. So it is an ancient Israelite festival that takes on new meaning when the Holy Spirit comes.

2. To begin, read Acts 2: 1-33 and choose the correct phrase in the [brackets]. Then go back and pick out the basic details of this story:

When?

Where?

Who?

What?

To someone who has never heard this story, how would you describe it? (using your own words)

3. Look at Peter’s speech or sermon in 2: 14-33 and break it up in sections:

(a) introductory comments (verses \_\_\_ to \_\_\_ )

(b) OT prophecy (verses \_\_\_ to \_\_\_ )

(c) central message (verses \_\_\_ to \_\_\_ )



Read through the passage below by yourself or with the person beside you and underline the correct phrase that is in **bold** in the brackets [ ]

## Acts 2: The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost

<sup>1</sup>When the [**first day of the week dawned OR the day of Pentecost came**] they were [**all together in one place OR scattered around Jerusalem**].

<sup>2</sup>And suddenly from heaven came a sound like [**thunder OR the rush of a violent wind**] and [**it filled the entire house OR alarmed the city**] where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, [**as of fire OR flames**] appeared among them and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup> [**All of them OR some of the disciples**] were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were [**Israelite pilgrims OR devout Jews**] from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the crowd gathered and was [**bewildered OR frightened**], because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup> Amazed and astonished, they asked: "Are not all these who are speaking [**Gentiles OR Galileans?**]" <sup>8</sup>Then how is it that we hear, each of us, [**such strange unknown languages OR in our own 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 both Jews and proselytes<sup>11</sup>(Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages [**shouting gibberish OR speaking about a God's deeds of power.**]" <sup>12</sup>All were [**amazed and perplexed OR alarmed and frightened**], saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup>But others [**threw stones at them OR sneered**] and said, "They are filled with new wine"

<sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: [**Men of Judea OR Gentile citizens**] and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup>Indeed these are not drunk, as you suppose, [**because we don't drink wine OR for it is only nine in the morning!**]" <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup>" 'In the last days it will be, God declares,

That I will pour out my [**salvation OR Spirit**] upon all flesh.

And your sons and daughters will prophesy,  
your young men will see visions,  
your old men will dream dreams.

<sup>22</sup>"You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man **[who we think might have been God OR attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders and signs]**, that God did through him among you, as you **[yourselves know or might have heard rumours about]**. <sup>23</sup>This man, handed over to you according to **[the Romans' plan OR the definite plan and foreknowledge of God]**; you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. <sup>24</sup>But God **[took Him to heaven OR raised him up]**, having freed him from death, because it was **[impossible for him to be held in its power OR a way to show the Romans who was really in charge]**. <sup>25</sup>For David said about him:

" 'I saw the Lord always before me.

For he is at my right hand,

So that I will not be shaken.

<sup>29</sup>"Fellow Israelites, I **[think it is true OR may say to you confidently]** of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup>Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup>Foreseeing this, David, **[worshipped God faithfully in his day OR spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah]**, saying, 'He was not abandoned to hades nor did his flesh experience corruption'. <sup>32</sup>This Jesus God raised up, and of that we **[have heard stories OR are witnesses]**. <sup>33</sup>Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you both see and hear.

#### **Acts 4: 1-22:**

While Peter and John were speaking to the people, the priests, the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees came to them, <sup>2</sup>**[much annoyed OR very surprised]** because they were teaching the people and proclaiming that in Jesus there **is [the resurrection of the dead OR unusual power]**. <sup>3</sup>So they arrested them and put them in custody **[for a few days OR until the next day]**, for it was already evening. <sup>4</sup>But many of those who heard the word **[scoffed at the disciples OR believed]**; and they numbered about five thousand.

<sup>5</sup>The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>When they had **[beaten the prisoners OR made the prisoners stand in their midst]**, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name

did you do this?’ <sup>8</sup>Then Peter, **[filled with the Holy Spirit OR determined to say what was right]**, said to them, ‘Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup>if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health **[because of the power in us OR by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth]**, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is “the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.”

<sup>12</sup>There is salvation [in no one else OR in the Law], for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be **[changed OR saved].’** <sup>13</sup> Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John and realized that they were **[uneducated and ordinary men OR fishermen from Galilee]**, they were amazed and recognized them as companions of Jesus. <sup>14</sup>When they saw the man who had been cured standing beside them, they **[stared in unbelief OR had nothing to say in opposition]**. <sup>15</sup>So they ordered them to **[leave the council Or go to their homes]** while they discussed the matter with one another. <sup>16</sup>They said, ‘What will we do with them? For it is obvious to all who live in Jerusalem that a notable sign has been done through them; we cannot deny it. <sup>17</sup>But to keep it from spreading further among the people, let us **[warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name OR give them 30 lashes and then send them away].’** <sup>18</sup>So they called them and ordered them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. <sup>19</sup>But Peter and John **[were thankful and went home quietly OR answered them]**, ‘Whether it is right in God’s sight to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge; <sup>20</sup>for we cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard.’ <sup>21</sup>After threatening them again, they let them go, finding no way to punish them because of the people, for all of them **[praised the disciples OR praised God for what had happened]**. <sup>22</sup>For the man on whom this sign of healing had been performed was more than forty years old.