



Leader's Guide

Week of February 26

Leaders,

Love y'all.

-Cameron Tate

The Big Idea

The Holy Spirit is here to empower believers to bring magnificent unity and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Getting Started

1. What do you think of when you hear the word Pentecostal?

***Leader's Note:** Try not to get too de-railed here. But since most people at SGC are from an uncharismatic/unPentecostal background, there may be some prejudice that is good to get out on the table so later in the discussion you can get to what it truly means to be Pentecostal and filled with the Spirit.

Digging In

1. Read **Acts 2:1-4**. What is the significance of Pentecost?

***Leader's Note:** For Jews Pentecost was a festival that came exactly 50 days after Passover, and it was the day where Israel celebrated the ingathering of the harvest. For Christians, it was the day of the Holy Spirit empowering the disciples to accomplish the mission of Jesus. On that day 3,000 people were the 'first fruits' of the gospel spreading.

2. What do the wind and fire in these verses represent?

***Leader's Note:** Power, purity, holiness, the very presence of God.

Winter 2017

3. What's the difference (if any) between *baptism* of the Holy Spirit and *filling* of the Holy Spirit?
***Leader's Note:** Many Bible-believing, evangelical Christians have different answers to this question. In his sermon, Jeff described it like this: you can only be baptized in the Holy Spirit in a once-for-all conversion experience where you are united with Christ (what many call "being saved"). However, we should be continually, daily seeking to be filled with (or empowered by) the Holy Spirit. In short: one baptism, many fillings.

4. Read **Acts 2:5-13**. What major barriers to the spreading of the Gospel of Jesus Christ does the Holy Spirit overcome?
***Leader's Note:** Language (through the gift of tongues) and geography (through gathering everyone to one place so they can go back to their communities as missionaries). Make sure to draw out for your group how amazing it is to think of the impact this one day had on the rest of human history.



Looking Around

1. Have you been baptized by the Holy Spirit? If so, what difference did it make in your life
 2. What does it look like for you to be filled with the Holy Spirit? Do you seek to be daily empowered?
 3. What major barriers/divisions halt the spreading of the Gospel today?
***Leader's Note:** Age, gender, race, language, culture, sub-culture, denominationalism, etc., etc., etc.
 4. How do we overcome those divides?
***Leader's Note:** This is what the whole lesson leads to: these divides can and must be overcome, but they can only do so through the power of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, we must seek the power of the Holy Spirit no matter how weird and Pentecostal it might feel.
 5. What great divide might the Spirit be asking you to cross?
-

Pray

Read **Revelation 7:9-10** and pray that this might begin to happen today.

Winter 2017