

# Small Group Questions

*Small groups and individuals can use these questions to engage the content of Sunday sermons.*



**May 28, 2023**

## The Power of Pentecost

God catalyzes our life in Christ through the work of the Holy Spirit. It not only reanimates those who had previously felt defeated, but it also compels us to nurture our God-given gifts to transform humanity.

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

*– Romans 15:13*

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**The Power of Pentecost**

**Acts 2:1-4**

**1 Corinthians 12:4-13**

### Connect:

Being in "flow" is a period of intense focus and complete immersion in an activity. Time flies, the ego falls away, and one experiences deep satisfaction. Describe an experience when you were in "flow."

### Engage:

Read Acts 2:1-4

1. This familiar story about Pentecost describes an overcoming wind, visions of dancing flames, and speech in foreign languages. What do you think those present felt as this phenomenon unfolded?
2. As the story continues, the gift of "tongues" was not for the believers but for the ability to proclaim God's message. So what does this tell you about the nature of spiritual gifts?

Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-13

3. What is the role of the Holy Spirit?
4. Diversity and unity seem to be recurring themes in this passage. How does Paul see that diversity expressed? For him, what are the unifying principles or values?
5. Why does Paul assert, "to each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." What do you think he is trying to correct in the Corinthian community?
6. How can the church deepen its encouragement of the diversity of gifts while maintaining the unity in Christ Paul speaks of here?

### Apply

The outpouring of the Holy Spirit continues today. We are the manifestation of God in the world! This is a heavy responsibility but one we do not do on our own. God is with us, nurturing and encouraging us, and God has given us a community where each person's gifts are valued and necessary for this kingdom work.

What spiritual gifts do you have? How can you more generously offer those gifts to our church community?

### Pray

Share joys and concerns and pray for one another, the church, and the world.