

HOLY SPIRIT MOMENTUM ...

STUDY GUIDELINES

February 5-11 Acts 2:14-21

Read Acts 1&2 several times this week and note what stands out.

*Read Luke 18:15-27, 21:15-19 & Acts 2:14-41 How was Simon Peter transformed?

*Draw a timeline of your life story, including significant events, turning points, celebrations and crises. How has God brought transformation throughout your life journey?

Our reading begins with Peter's response to the new revelation of the living God in the coming of the Spirit and the miracle of languages. As he explains this event to the crowd, he goes back to Scripture. This rereading of Scripture in the light of the new things that God is doing in the present is repeated throughout Acts.

*Referring back to your timeline, were there new challenges and situations that made you reread scripture in a fresh and new

way. How was your concept of God changed?

* After responding to the crowd's questions and taunts, Peter quickly tells them about Jesus. How often do you talk about Jesus?

*From your reading and reflection of Acts 1 & 2 this week, what is God's fresh word to you?

Prayer *Lord, help me to be open to the surprise and challenge of your word being fulfilled in ways I do not expect.*

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”
Acts 1:8

February 12-18 Acts 3: 1-10

Acts 1-7 records the first stage of the drama of Acts, as the Spirit of God works through the apostles in Jerusalem.

*Try and read Acts 3-7 this week and note what stands out to you.

*Read Mark:6:7, Luke 10:1 & Acts 3:1

How have Peter and John continued in Jesus' pattern of ministry?

Reflect: How can you partner with another person in ministering to others.

*Read Acts 3:1-10

What do you notice about the lame beggar? (v 2-4)

*What is it that the apostles do right at the start that turns a routine embarrassing meeting into a real personal encounter?

*Consider Acts 3:6.

What do you have to give? If

you know Jesus as your Lord and Savior then you have something to offer others – Jesus. How might you do that today?



For reflection & prayer:

Jesus said, "Freely you have received, freely give" (Matt 10:8)

**"Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk."
Acts 3:6**

February 19-25 Acts 8:1-17

Stephen's death marks the beginning of the next stage of Luke's record of the action of the Spirit of God when the gospel of Jesus moves out from Jerusalem into Judea and Samaria. It wasn't a planned expansion by the apostles but the result of early Christians being pushed from their comfort zone through persecution. Gradually the apostles and the Jerusalem church face up to the question of, "Who is the Gospel for?"

Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went. Acts 8:4

*Read Acts 8:1-17 What strikes you?

*Read Acts 2:42-47 How was the Spirit of God at work through the fellowship of the Jerusalem Christians? Read Acts 8:1-4 How was the Spirit of God at work through the persecution

of the Jerusalem Christians? What does that say to you?

*Can you think of a time in your life where a disastrous situation opened up a new opportunity for the work of God? What was it like being pushed out of your comfort zone? What did you discover about God? How were others impacted?

*While of Jewish origins, the Samaritans were traditional enemies of the Jews as they held different theologies. How would their receiving of the Spirit have brought unexpected unity amongst these early Christians? What does this say to you about your relationship with people of difference who make you feel uncomfortable?

* Compare Acts 2:38, 8:12-17 and 10:44-48. What do these passages say to you about receiving the Holy Spirit?

Prayerfully consider your life right now. What is the Spirit of God inviting you to?

February 26 - March 3 Acts 8: 26-40

In Samaria, Philip preached the Gospel publicly simply because he and other Christians were there. On this occasion Philip responds to a direct instruction from God and engages in a one-to-one encounter with an Ethiopian Eunuch.

the Eunuch?

V29

V30

V31

V35

Vs36-38

*Read Acts 8:26-40 several times. What strikes you?

*Can you think of a time

where you had a clear prompt from the Holy Spirit to talk to someone about Jesus? What was your response and the outcome?

*Are there things that hold you back from following the prompts of the Holy Spirit?

* In the following verses what do you note about the different steps in Philip's encounter with



*Is there any insight from these verses that might help you in talking to others about Jesus?

Prayer

Lord, as I encounter people today, help me to listen and respond to the prompts of your Spirit.