

1. The coming of the Spirit

- a) Acts 2:1–3, why was the coming of the Holy Spirit to the early Christians so dramatic? (See also John 3:8, Matthew 3:11)
- b) Was the Holy Spirit active in the plan of salvation prior to Pentecost? Give examples.
- c) What was this event on the day of Pentecost so significant for the early Christian church?

2. The gift of tongues

- a) Acts 2:5–12
- b) Where these unknown tongues or existing foreign languages? (dialektos)
- c) Why did the Holy Spirit choose this supernatural sign rather than something else like multiplying food or walking on water?
- d) Skeptics in the crowd accused the apostles of being drunk. People today still try to explain away the supernatural works of God. Why?

3. Peter's sermon

- a) Acts 2:16–21
- b) Why does Peter refer to this time as “the last days”?
- c) Acts 2:22–32
- d) Why was the resurrection of Jesus central to the preaching of the apostles? Acts 4:33; 17:30–31
- e) How does the resurrection of Jesus from the dead impact our lives today?

4. The exaltation of Jesus

- a) Acts 2:33 (see the prayer of Jesus in John 17:5)
- b) What is the connection between the exaltation of Jesus at the right hand of God and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit? Luke 24:49, John 14:15–18, Acts 1:4–5
- c) Acts 2:36, contrast this bold declaration of Peter with his words several weeks earlier in the courtyard of the High Priest's residence, recorded in Matthew 26:69–74. How do you account for the dramatic difference in Peter's testimony?

5. The response of the crowd

- a) Acts 2:37
- b) What is implied by the expression “cut to the heart”?
- c) How does the apostle Peter respond to their question? Acts 2:38–40
- d) Why is repentance an essential preparation for baptism?
- e) What other gift is promised besides forgiveness of sins?
- f) How do 3,000 in the crowd respond? Acts 2:41–42
- g) This same expression, “cut to the heart” is found in Acts 7:54. Why is the response of these two groups so different?

