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Central Congregational Church
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God's Power In You

Series: *Our Place in God's Plan – A Study in the Book of Acts*

Central Thought: The Holy Spirit – the very presence and power of God – is available to you, that you might speak his words and do his work in anticipation of the return of Christ and the renewal of all things.

❖ The Promise Fulfilled

Acts 2:1–4 (NIV) — 1 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

- The Spirit is for everyone – Jews and Gentiles, men and women, young and old.

Acts 2:16–18 (NIV) — 16 No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: 17 “ ‘In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. 18 Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

❖ The Audience Gathered

Acts 2:5–8 (NIV) — 5 Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. 6 When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. 7 Utterly amazed, they asked: “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language?”

Acts 2:11 (NIV) — 11 “...we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!”

- The Spirit makes the message clear.

❖ The Bigger Picture

Acts 2:16–21 (NIV) — 16 No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: 17 “ ‘In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. 18 Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. 19 I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. 20 The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. 21 And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’

- The coming of the Spirit initiates the “Last Days” as we anticipate *the Day* – the Day of the Lord.

Ephesians 5:18–20 (NIV) — 18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, 19 speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, 20 always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Homework:

- ❖ Continue to read and re-read through the book of Acts.
- ❖ Find a prayer partner and begin to seek the Lord regularly that you might be filled with his Spirit.
- ❖ Memorize Ephesians 5:18-20.