

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

Acts Series

These questions are for the **September 22, 2019** sermon, "In the Last Days." Please read the sermon passage (Acts 2:14-36) together out loud.

Sermon Outline

IN THESE LAST DAYS, THE POURING OUT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT . . .

1. Is the fulfillment of God's promise (14-21)
 - a. We live in the "last days" when God promised to pour out Spirit (Joel 2, John 7:38-39)
 - i. The last days are long, not short.
 - ii. The last days began with the coming of Christ, and will end with his 2nd coming.
 - b. What does it mean that the Holy Spirit has been "poured out"?
 - i. He ministers the presence of Christ to people of every nation (all flesh).
 - ii. He ministers the presence of Christ regardless of gender, age or wealth.
 - iii. His aim is to make us "powerful" "witnesses" of Jesus' resurrection.
2. Is the expression of God's power (22-36). God's death-defeating Messiah produces . . .
 - a. Gladness for every heart who submits to him (22-28)
 - i. We are glad, verbally rejoicing, living in hope (26) & full of gladness (28).
 - ii. The thing that makes us glad is the presence of Christ ("ever before").
 - b. Certainty for every heart who belongs to him (29-36)
 - i. This section begins with confidence (29) and ends with certainty (36).
 - ii. The Holy Spirit makes us certain that Jesus alone is the Messiah from God.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: These "Last Days" are long, not short, and marked by the "pouring out" of the Holy Spirit. One of his primary tasks is to minister the constant presence of Jesus Christ "in abundance" to all who trust Jesus Christ. He provides "power" for us to "witness to" (Acts 1:8) the resurrection of Jesus Christ (mighty works of God, (2:11)). In what way are you stepping into your identity as "powerful witness of the mighty works of God" to the nations?
2. Based on #1, above: The Holy Spirit is not limited to the people of Israel, or people who look like us or who hold to our traditions. He moves across borders, regardless of race, gender, age or economic station. Pick an example of how a different category than yourself (race, gender, age or economic station) and answer this question: "How do you see the Holy Spirit evident?" What can we learn from them?
3. Based on #2, above: The Holy Spirit should produce gladness, happiness and words of rejoicing regardless of the fact that relationships could be strained or our lives could be threatened. Regardless of those things we have union with Christ. Are you a glad-hearted person? How does the presence of Christ produce happiness? How does his presence impact your words?
4. Based on #2, above: The Holy Spirit produces certainty. We become both "confident" (22) and "certain" (36) of Christ's resurrection, which proves his position as Messiah. Do you talk openly and with certainty about Jesus? How is this improving in your life? How can we pray for you?