

Foundations of the Christian Church - 5 Pillars of a Healthy Church - As found in Acts 2

1. Filled with the Holy Spirit - 5/31/26
2. Centered on the Gospel of Christ - 6/7/26 - Communion
3. Driven by evangelism - 6/14/26
4. Unified in everything - 6/21/26 - Father's Day
5. Growing and developing disciples - 6/28/26

“A Healthy Church is Filled with the Spirit” - Acts 2:1-13 - 5/31/26 - TBC

Read Acts 2:1-13

Define Pentecost: Pentecost is a Christian Holiday celebrating the birth of the Church

Jews were gathered to celebrate Shavout - Or festival of weeks - This celebrates God's provision, first for providing Torah, and annually by providing wheat. This is 1 of 3 annual feast that Jews celebrate (also Passover and Sukkot or feast of booths)

- Focus on
1. Purpose - Why does God give us the Holy Spirit?
 2. Function - What does the Holy Spirit do for believers?
 3. Indwelling - Where does the Spirit reside? Why should the Spirit be in the Church?

1. Purpose - Why does God give us the Holy Spirit?
 - a. First called to wait on the Holy Spirit in Luke 24, repeated in Acts 1:4-5
 - i. Disciples were looking for Jesus to establish the kingdom, Acts 1:6
 1. 1:7-8, God's plan will unfold in 2 unique segments
 - b. In Acts 1:11, disciples questioned for “gazing up”
 - i. There is work to do, not a time to stand in awe
 - ii. Not just Jesus ministry, but the Holy Spirit is the vehicle of the Church
 - c. Acts 2 begins with the disciples gathered, afraid and unsure of what to do
 - i. Put another way, they were humble, desiring, and desperate
 - ii. When the Holy Spirit comes down, things get much clearer
 - d. Verse 38 - According to John 14, the Spirit is left to guide and remind!

2. Function - What does the Holy Spirit do for believers?

a. The Spirit performs some simple but profound functions

- i. We see in Acts 2, the Spirit unifies, emboldens, directs focus, empowers, and convicts.
 - 1. Unifies - Those gathered in v. 1 came together in the Spirit by v.43-44
 - 2. Emboldens - They went from fearful to outspoken
 - 3. Directs focus - These guys went from not knowing what to do to adding to the church daily.
 - 4. Empowers - The Spirit enabled communication that could not happen otherwise.
 - 5. Convicts - Those listening understood their need because of the Spirit.

3. Indwelling - Where does the Holy Spirit reside?

- a. V.2-4: Came from heaven > Filled the house > They were filled with the Holy Spirit
- b. Why should the Spirit be in the Church? > Notice before anyone speaks at this first church service, the Holy Spirit fills the apostles.
 - i. We can run ourselves ragged trying to do good, but the Spirit is necessary for change!
 - ii. Without the Spirit, we will do nothing of significance.

Conclusion: 1. Are you filled with the Spirit? If not, why?

2. Do you desire the Church to be filled with the Spirit?