

## Growth Group Discussion – Quick Tour of the Bible

### Week 3 – The Coming of the Holy Spirit

#### Warm-Up

1. Have you ever been in an environment where you didn't speak the language? What was that experience like?
2. When was the last time you decided to change something in your daily routine? Did that change stick?

#### Talk it Over

3. What from this week's readings stood out to you?
4. Acts 2 is a chapter about the power of the Holy Spirit. First, you see at the day of Pentecost, where the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit. Then Peter tells the crowd, "To repent of your sins and turn to God." 3,000 believed and were baptized that day, and the church grew. Read Acts 2:42-47 What are the key aspects of the early church community that you see in this passage?

**Leader Note:** As you read this passage and the Book of Acts in general it is important to remember that the book is largely descriptive, rather than prescriptive. It shows principles of how people responded to the work of the Spirit in their lives but doesn't necessarily prescribe specific methods. An example of this would be when the passage says they broke bread in their homes and ate together, while this could be taken literally it can also point to the fact that church community should extend beyond just Sunday mornings and midweek group time. This could be sharing a meal, but it could also be a wide variety of other activities.

*Acts 2:42-47* <sup>42</sup> They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup> Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All the believers were together and had everything in common. <sup>45</sup> They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. <sup>46</sup> Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

- What about these aspects do you think made the early church so appealing?
- What are some challenges to this model of church community?

**Leader Note:** People might point out that in our modern culture, people don't have the time to adopt this immersive church community model. Try to point them to the large principle being outlined here. As Christians we would like to divide our lives like pieces of a pie, giving Christ one slice. What this is pointing to is that Christ should be a part of every part of our lives, and this is a reflection of what that might look like for our community.

5. Here at Seabreeze, we have the 7 Heart Attitudes. How do you think the Heart Attitudes help us in pursuing this type of community?

*Put the goals and interests of others above my own.* – Philippians 2:3-4

*Live an honest, open life before others* – Ephesians 4:25

*Give and receive Scriptural correction* – Hebrews 3:13

*Clear up relationships* – Matthew 5:23-24

*Participate in the ministry of the church* – 1 Peter 4:10

*Support the work financially* – 1 Corinthians 16:2

*Follow spiritual leadership within Scriptural limits* – Hebrews 13:17

- What are some ways you have experienced this here at Seabreeze?

### **Take It Home**

6. What is the next step you can take to strengthen the community here at Seabreeze?