

Digging Deeper During the Week!

Being filled with Holy Spirit is God's desire for your life! Exploring the many aspects of what life becomes once filled with the Spirit is what this week's study is all about. *Here is what you can expect once filled!*

Monday **Filled to Testify!** 4-Feb Acts 4.8

God has called us to be witnesses of the wonderful works which Jesus has done in our lives (Acts 1.8) once the Holy Spirit has come upon us. In our Biblical account today, we discover exactly what can happen when we are filled with the Holy Spirit.

- After an incredible miracle of healing had happened through the apostles (Acts 3), liberal religious leaders attacked them to silence their witness. As you read through verses 1-12, what do you notice about the way the apostles spoke? What was the reason for this?
- As you finish today's reading, what are the evidences of the filling of the Holy Spirit, as recorded by the Bible writer? Together, ask God for these to be displayed in the lives of your small group this week.

Tuesday **Filled with Boldness!** 5-Feb Acts 4.23-31

As we continue yesterday's study, notice how this event affected the direction and passion of the apostles.

- When the apostles returned from their imprisonment, what was their first action? After they report to their small group, we see a method we should imitate in our small groups as well. What did they do?
- When they prayed, what did they ask for? Can you imagine the tone of these prayers? What do you think it might have sounded like? What did God do to encourage them after their prayers?

Wednesday **Filled with Courage!** 6-Feb Acts 7.51-55

Chapter 7 of Acts deals with the witness concerning Jesus by Stephen and his murder by the Jewish High Priest and his men.

- Stephen's bold preaching (51-53) surely is adversarial in the face of this hostile audience. What do you note about him that strikes you as different from our perceived ideas of a correct witness for Jesus?

- There is no doubt Stephen is walking with God as the account reveals he was "full of the Holy Spirit." What special gift did God give Stephen as a result of this fullness and his courage?

Thursday **Filled with Salvation!** 7-Feb Acts 10.34-48

As the witness of the apostles grows and crosses ethnic and racial boundaries, we see the filling of the Holy Spirit as evidence of salvation.

- The filling of the Holy Spirit is associated with the witness of the Gospel (Good News) of God's forgiveness from the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. What comes to mind as you think this through? What are the elements of the witness as recorded here?
- The evidence of salvation is that – at the moment of salvation – one is filled with the Spirit. This event can happen often afterwards, and it is always for the purpose of witnessing. What implications does that have as you consider praying for filling in your small group?

Friday **Filled with Discernment!** 8-Feb Acts 13.1-12

Knowing what is holding back the work of God in our midst is a great key to succeeding for God. This account reveals how God helps us.

- The Holy Spirit directs ministry and selects individuals to do those ministries. What do you note (1-3) is the process of hearing God's direction and selection in a small group setting?
- Saul, through the filling of the Holy Spirit, was able to see the obstacle to the proconsul's salvation. How did this manifest itself?

Saturday **Filled with Joy!** 9-Feb Acts 13.49-52

In today's study we see how the Spirit of God reinforces our emotional being as we continue to witness, especially when under persecution.

- God is bringing great success in response to the witness of God's people (49-50). This created an aggressive counter-attack by the forces of evil through persecution. What does this tell us might happen to us as we witness for God seeking to spread His love?
- Despite the harassment, what does the filling of the Holy Spirit produce in us when we are frustrated, irritated or concerned about the people who are opposed to us (51-52)?