

“VOICE OF PAUL-x-LUKE” SERIES

This series shows how the writings of the apostle Paul and his traveling-&-writing assistant Luke, all tie in together to construct “the basic frame of the entire New Testament” from 16 of its books. Under Paul’s unique influence, all these writings emphasize *God forging His People into a new kind of Followership whose “growth policy” involves embodying every kind of people & heritage.* It is within the framework of this people-building endeavor that (1) the Forgiving-&-Restoring Power of Jesus especially gets to be displayed, and where (2) its best participants are those whose lives have God’s Presence “pouring forth” within them.

study #10: The Long-Promised “Pouring Forth of The Spirit” (& Phase-1)

— covering **Acts chapter 2** —

ACTION #1. Today’s study is considered by some as the very dawn of the Christian church, when God breathed fresh life into His brand-new Followership upon the earth. Read the actual event—**Acts 2:1-13**—and discuss:

- Describe **ALL** the different kinds of “phenomena” (things seen, heard, felt, etc.) of The Spirit’s arrival.
- Can anyone recall all the different “phenomena” when the Spirit descended on Jesus at his baptism?
- Does this story of what happened sound the exact opposite of a famous story in the O.T... and *how*?

ACTION #2. To answer the onlookers’ question of “What does all this mean?!!!”, read Peter’s response in **Acts 2:16-21** and then discuss: *Bottom line, what was Peter’s answer—which single phrase in these verses would you say summarizes Peter’s answer about what was happening?*

ACTION #3. Next in Peter’s response to the crowd, he explained that The Spirit being poured-forth upon them was proof that something important had occurred in heaven itself. Read **Acts 2:30-36** and then discuss:

- What are all the different things that seem to be happening (or just recently happened) in heaven?
- According to these verses, where is Jesus, what are his goals, and what is he doing now?
- (Look at **verses 34-36** and imagine what these verses could these even mean!)

ACTION #4. After Peter’s sermon, 3000 people decided to convert their lives to being under the lordship of Jesus. Read **Acts 2:42-47** and try to describe ALL the characteristics of this new community of “believers”; in your own words, *what must this have been like to be a part of this, and is it supposed to be similar now-a-days too (which parts)?*

ACTION #5. Each person share briefly one final summary, personal take-away, “ah-ha!” insight, or new question or curiosity from today’s study.

EXTRA... FOR THOSE MOTIVATED, DEVOTED, & WITH SOME SELF-COMMAND:

GOLD CHALLENGE ...read ahead (& maybe journal about) for next study: **Acts 3-4**

PENGUIN CHALLENGE ... (=daily reading + cover full NT+Psalms during series): read **GC** plus **Psalms 1-10**