

Last week we talked about Jesus' last few days on earth. Jesus had gathered His friends, and He gave them a big mission: to tell everyone about Him all over the earth from Jerusalem to every single nation in the world! It was a BIG task, but Jesus promised that God was sending His Holy Spirit to help them. Then, as His friends watched, Jesus was taken by God up to heaven!

A few days passed, and all the believers had gathered in Jerusalem for the feast of Pentecost. This was an important celebration for the Jewish people, so there was lots of food, music, and fun. While the believers were there in the same room, a sound came from heaven like a strong wind blowing. In fact, the sound filled the entire house where they had gathered. Then, suddenly, the believers saw something that looked like fire in the shape of tongues. The flames separated and came to rest on each of them.

All of the believers in the room were filled with the Holy Spirit! They began to speak in languages they had not known before.

The believers went out to join the crowds who had arrived in Jerusalem for the Feast of Pentecost. People had traveled there from many different regions, where a variety of languages were spoken. They were shocked to hear the believers talking about Jesus in words they could understand!

Listen to how the people responded when they heard all the languages being spoken.

Open the Bible to Acts 2:7-12 (NIrV) and read.

“The crowd was really amazed. They asked, “Aren't all these people who are speaking Galileans? Then why do we each hear

them speaking in our own native language?” . . . They asked one another, “What does this mean?”

The people were amazed, but they were also pretty confused. So Peter gathered the other disciples and spoke to the crowd.

“You know what? Let’s read his words as Luke recorded them in the book of Acts.

Open the Bible to Acts 2:22-24 (NIRV) and read.

“Fellow Israelites, listen to this! Jesus of Nazareth was a man who had God’s approval. God did miracles, wonders and signs among you through Jesus. You yourselves know this. Long ago God planned that Jesus would be handed over to you. With the help of evil people, you put Jesus to death. You nailed him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead.

The crowd continued to listen to Peter as the Holy Spirit gave him the words to say. The Spirit also helped the people understand what he was saying.

Many people were moved by what Peter had to say—especially this next part.

Open the Bible to Acts 2:36 (NIRV) and read.

“So be sure of this, all you people of Israel. You nailed Jesus to the cross. But God has made him both Lord and Messiah.

The people asked what they should do now that they knew the truth about Jesus.

Open the Bible to Acts 2:38 (NIRV) and read.

“Peter replied, “All of you must turn away from your sins and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then your sins will be forgiven. You will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

That day, 3,000 people believed in Jesus and were baptized. Three thousand! With the help of God’s Holy Spirit, Peter and the disciples had already begun the big job of telling every nation about Jesus BEFORE they even left Jerusalem. Because as the people in Jerusalem began returning to their own towns, word about Jesus was going to spread even farther!

God had given the disciples what they needed to start the job He had for them and what they needed to keep going as well. He can do the same for you!

God gives you what you need to keep going. Whatever plan God has for you and your life, He will give you what you need to keep going and finish what you’ve started.

Let’s thank Him for that!

Dear God,
thank You for sending us Jesus to be our Savior.
Thank You also for sending us the Holy Spirit so we can continue to spread the news about Jesus. I’m so thankful that we can trust You no matter what. You always give us what we need to keep going and finish what You’ve asked us to do. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name,
Amen

God created a perfect world, but then people messed it up. When sin entered the world, our relationship with God was broken. But God knew we needed a Savior. That's why He sent Jesus. Jesus died on the cross for our sins, and He was raised to life.

But before God brought Jesus to heaven to be with Him, He sent His Spirit to the disciples. He knew they would need help telling the world about Jesus. When YOU believe and put your faith in Jesus, you receive the gift of the Spirit, too. And God's Spirit gives us what we need.

God gives you what you need to keep going. Say that with me

God gives you what you need to keep going.

Whatever task God has given you to do, you should do your very best. You should always give it your all. But in the end, you can rest in knowing that you don't have to do it alone. If you believe in Jesus, you have the Holy Spirit to help you. "You've probably seen the Holy Spirit at work and you didn't even know it. Maybe you've seen someone go through something really hard—like maybe they got really sick or they didn't have a job for a long time. Many times, when you ask people like that how they made it through, they'll tell you that they couldn't have done it without God's help. THAT'S what the Holy Spirit can do!