

Series: The Mission of Jesus in Luke-Acts

Spirit-Empowered Witnesses—Acts 2:37–47

Pastor Greg Stiekes

What transformed the disciples of Jesus from timid and unsure followers into confident and powerful witnesses to his death and resurrection? The same thing that empowered Jesus at the beginning of his own ministry (Luke 4): the coming of the Holy Spirit. When Jesus pours out the Holy Spirit upon his witnesses, a Spirit-empowered, dynamic community of—his church!—is born. Luke’s description of this first church in Jerusalem challenges us to examine our own congregation for these marks of the Holy Spirit in our midst:

1. Their loves.
 - a. They were devoted to apostolic teaching.
 - b. They were devoted to fellowship.
 - c. They were devoted to the Table.
 - d. They were devoted to prayer.

2. Their spirit.
 - a. They had a spirit of awe.
 - b. They had a spirit of sincerity.
 - c. They had a spirit of joy.

3. Their increase.