Teaming masses filled the streets of Jerusalem once again. It was a month or so after Passover and Jews from Rome, Turkey, Arabia and Persia came to celebrate the Festival of Pentecost. That festival was so named since it took place fifty days after Passover. Also known as "the Day of Firstfruits," the people brought the first of their crops as a thanks offering, asking God to bless the rest of their harvest. On this day of Pentecost, the first fruits of the Church would produce a harvest of souls when the promised Holy Spirit arrived in power.

• God keeps His promises (Acts 1:8)

• The Holy Spirit attracts people to Jesus (2:1-13)

• The Spirit helps us clarify the Gospel (vs. 14-36)

• The Spirit draws people to Jesus (vs. 37-41)

• The Spirit grows His Church (vs. 42-47)

## **Personal Application and Group Interaction**

- 1. The term "stand trial" came from those days when the accused and witnesses actually stood during their entire time in court. Today we are so much more "relaxed," unless, that is that you have experienced how it feels to have an attorney fire questions at you. Describe a time when you or someone you've known sat on "the witness stand." How did it go?
- 2. Christ's followers hadn't done so well as witnesses between the time of His arrest and resurrection. What might have gone through your mind if you had been with the group when He told them "you will be my witnesses" (Acts 1:8) just before His ascension into heaven?
- 3. Which of the principles above helps you best understand the supernatural nature of being witnesses to the gospel of Christ?
- 4. How has the Holy Spirit prepared you to be a witness for Christ? What has that done to your level of confidence as a witness?
- 5. What's behind your occasional reluctance to be a witness for Jesus and what do you try to do about it? What is God telling you to do about it?



Acts 2
Pastor John
January 7, 2018

