

Momentum- A Study in Acts
Inception – Study Guide
Acts 1-2:41

1. Two thousand years ago a movement began- The Church! Throughout the centuries it has gained **momentum** by the power of God's Spirit (*fifty-six references to the Holy Spirit*). Share examples of how God's Spirit works in the church. (see also Acts 1:2; 1:5; 1:8; 1:16; 2:4; 2:38).

2. The mission statement for the Church is cited in Acts 1:8:

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Share an example of how God gave you 'power' to be a witness. What did that look like? What does it mean to have power to be a witness?

3. Read Acts 2:1-13. Notice that as a fulfillment of the promise (Acts 1:5), God sent His Holy Spirit for the inception of the Church. What happened? Why do you think God allowed the believers to speak in foreign languages?

4. In Acts 2:14-41 we see that Peter preached his first sermon using the Scriptures. Here is his outline:

Big Idea: Acts 2:21

"Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

1. **Joel 2:28-32**- The time of Messiah! *"...last days..."*

2. **Psalms 16**- Resurrection- *"you will not ...let your Holy One see decay"*

3. **Psalms 110**- Deity of Christ- *"The Lord said to my Lord..."*

The result is that people were convicted and 3000 turned to Christ and were added to the Church.

How have you seen God use the Holy Spirit (*odd circumstances*) and the word of God to draw people to Himself?

Application-

Pray together for God to fill you with the Holy Spirit to be a witness for Christ. Take a few minutes to pray for people you know are not yet believers in Christ.

Message Slides

Introduction**Author & Date**- Luke- 63 A.D**Bridge**- Prescriptive & Descriptive**Goal**- to identify with the momentum of the early church more strongly.**Key Verse:** Acts 1:8

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Reading Plan**Email reading comments to:** acts@communityfellowship.com**Momentum graphic****The Holy Spirit**1:2 “[Jesus]...after He had given commands through the Holy Spirit...”1:5 “...but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”1:8 “...but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you...”1:16 “...the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand...”2:4- “...and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues...”2:38 “...Repent and be baptized, ...and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”**Inception (Acts 1-2)**

The Birth of the Church!

A. The Promise of the Holy Spirit (1:1-7)

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ²until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

A. The Promise of the Holy Spirit (1:1-7)

⁴And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” ⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority.

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit1. Acts**Acts 2, 11 & 19**

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Acts 11:16

“And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’”

Acts 19:2

“And he said to them, ‘Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?’ And they said, ‘No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.’”

2. Epistles

1 Cor. 12:13- “For we were **all baptized** by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.”

2 Cor. 5:5- “Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has **given us the Spirit** as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.”

Eph. 4:30- “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God with whom you were **sealed** for the day of redemption.”

Gal. 3:2- “I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you **receive** the Spirit by the works of the law, or **by believing** what you heard?”

Gal. 4:6- “Because you are his sons and daughters, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, ‘**Abba, Father.**’”

1 John 4:13- “This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: **He has given us of his Spirit.**”

Result of the Holy Spirit

Fills us (Eph. 5)

Walks with us (Gal. 5)

Produces Christian Character (Gal. 5:22-23)

Provides Spiritual Gifts (1 Cor. 12:4-11)

Teaches (John 14:26 & 16:12-15)

Fosters Praise, Thanksgiving and Mutual Submission (Eph. 5:18-21 & Col. 3:16-18).

Leads (Rom. 8:14; Gal. 5:18).

Confirms (Rom. 8:16).

Makes Intercession (Rom. 8:26)

Convicts (2 Tim. 3:16)

B. The Mission Statement of the Church (1:8).

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

C. The Ascension of Christ (1:9-11).

And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ⁹And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹⁰and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

D. A Replacement Apostle is Chosen (1:12-26).

Acts 1:22

“...beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.”

Eph. 2:20

“...built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone.”

E. The Arrival of the Holy Spirit (2:1-13).

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

F. Peter preaches the First Sermon (2:14-41).**Big Idea: Acts 2:21**

“Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

1. **Joel 2:28-32**- The time of Messiah! “...*last days*...”
2. **Psalm 16**- Resurrection- “*you will not ...let your Holy One see decay*”
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F. Peter preaches the First Sermon (2:14-41).**Acts 2:37-39**

Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”³⁸ And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.”

Momentum graphic**Application****Acts 2:38**

“Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Acts 1:8

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

