

## MAIN POINT

***When Christians proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, people will believe and become a part of Christ's body, the church.***

## INTRODUCTION

What is the most dramatic thing you have ever witnessed? Do you enjoy telling people about what you experienced? Why or why not?

What, in your own words, does it mean to be a witness? Why do you think Jesus chose that word to describe what His followers would be in the world?

**Acts 1:8 gives the church, both past and present, its marching orders. We are to faithfully share with the rest of the world the story of what Jesus has done for us. We can do so confidently because we believe that we have been changed by Jesus, empowered by the Holy Spirit, and sent out as witnesses to change the world.**

## DISCUSSION

**> READ ACTS 1:1-11 AND 2:1-41.**

What was Jesus's purpose during the forty days after His resurrection? What does that have to do with us 2,000 years later?

According to Jesus in 1:8, what purpose does the power of the Holy Spirit serve? How does the scope of the task Jesus issued relate to this power?

What evidence could you point to that shows the Spirit's power at work in your life or the life of our church?

Why was the Spirit important for the mission of the disciples? Why is He important for ours?

What does it mean to be Jesus's witness? What are we witnesses to?

What is the significance for Luke that the believers were "all together in one place" (2:1)?

What happened when the Holy Spirit came upon the believers? How do you interpret these signs?

How does being filled with the Holy Spirit relate to bearing witness to Jesus?

What were the two basic reactions of the residents of Jerusalem to the signs at Pentecost?

Based on our study today, why would you say it is essential to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

## APPLICATION

**How does the Spirit enable you to share the gospel and join in the church's mission? What is your next step in joining God in His mission?**