

BRINGING IT HOME



You Have the Power!

Being filled with the Holy Spirit means that you can call on His power to do things that you never imagined. We no longer have to or should rely on our own power when we have access to the power of God’s Spirit in us! That power might lead us to step out in new ways – one way might be to be a witness.

1. Make a list of all the places you go to during the week where you are around other people.
2. In each of these places think about how you might be able to be a witness – this could be through your words and/or your actions.
3. Choose the one place that you’re going to take a first step this week.
4. Now, ask the Holy Spirit to empower you – to give you the opportunity to be a witness.

Prayer for This Week

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.
 Act in me, O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy.
 Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, that I love but what is holy.
 Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy.
 Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy. Amen.

- St. Augustine

SERMON NOTES

Acts 2:1-21
YOU are...Empowered

1. What did you learn about God from today’s Scripture and sermon?
2. What did you learn about yourself?
3. What action might God be calling you to this week?

DIGGING DEEPER

In the book of Acts, Luke continues the story he began in his Gospel, covering the 30 years after Jesus ascended into Heaven. At this time the church was established and the Good News was being spread. Ordinary people *empowered by the Holy Spirit* were spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ.

On Sunday, we read from the second chapter of Acts where Luke tells us about the Holy Spirit coming on Pentecost. Now, we're going to look back at the first chapter of Acts where Luke reminds us of Jesus' promise of the Holy Spirit.

Read Acts 1:1-8

1. Here at the end of His life, Jesus is getting ready to leave. Why do you think Jesus is so focused on the Holy Spirit?
2. What do you have to do to get a gift? Jesus calls the Holy Spirit a gift, how could that be so?
3. From just this passage, make a list of what the Holy Spirit does.
4. From other Scripture or your own experience, make a list of what the Holy Spirit does.
5. What do you think you need most from the Holy Spirit in your life right now?
6. What kind of power do you think Jesus is talking about in this passage?
7. What makes someone a "witness"? Is it going on mission trips or is there something else?
8. How has the Holy Spirit empowered you? Share your experience.
9. What would your life look like – how might your life change – if you totally relied on and lived into the power of the Holy Spirit in you?

LIFE CHECK

1. Where did you see God at work in your life this week? Consider the following questions as you think about God working in your spiritual, home, work and social life.

How were you blessed this week?

Did God prompt you to bless someone this week? How did they respond?

How has God answered prayer?

Did you seek God's will and obey?

Did God speak to you through Scripture, a person, or in some other way? What happened?

How did God work in and through you to share your faith this week through words and/or actions?

2. What action might you take this week to draw closer to God and see Him at work in your life?

PRAY

Lord, thank you for all that you have done here at St. Philip's to impact the world for Christ. Lead us in the process of calling our next Rector and raise up a faithful leader to care for your people and grow our ministries. Amen.