

# Finding **Power**, **Perseverance**, and **Purpose** in the Holy Spirit

# AT HOME STUDY

# **WEEK TWO**

Find a time each day to read the passage of scripture. Follow the daily prayer prompt and then pray this prayer together:

God, we call upon your Spirit knowing that it's risky, knowing that you might really move. Knowing that the power that comes with your Spirit will move us to live out your purpose for us. We thank you for the good news that announces our salvation. Be our guide as we pray and prepare for you to spread that good news all over the world. Amen.

#### MONDAY: ACTS 1.4-5

On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. 5 For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

- What is a promise that you've had to wait on for a long time? Is there a promise from God that you are longing to see come true?
- Pray for the promise and gift of the Holy Spirit to come true in your life and the life of the church.

# TUESDAY: ACTS 2.8-11

Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!"

- Immediately after the disciples began to experience the power of the Holy Spirit, others around them became witnesses of that same power. They had come from all over the known world and yet heard a unifying message of hope in their own languages. We live in an increasingly diverse world. Who are the people groups that you have a hard time knowing how to speak to?
- Pray for God to give you the confidence to speak when called and assurance that the Holy Spirit can translate in ways that others can hear and understand.

# WEDNESDAY: ACTS 2.17

"In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams."

- Dreams and visions can produce pictures of hope. They can also lead to discomfort when it takes a long time for them to come true. Most of us have pictured a future where God's children of all races and nationalities are able to live in peace and mutual respect. When that dream goes unrealized it can cause great discomfort. What pictures of hope is your heart longing for today?
- Pray for prophesy, dreams, and visions to continue inspiring every generation of God's people.

#### THURSDAY: ACTS 2.22-24

"Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him."

- Jesus made God known through miracles, wonders and signs. If you had the ability to do what Jesus could do, where would you start your work to make God known?
- Pray for opportunities to make God known to others in your daily life.

# FRIDAY: JOHN 14.12

Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

- What are some of the things Jesus had the power to do in his life? (healing, casting out demons, bringing the dead to life) Can you imagine having power to do even greater things? What would even greater things look like?
- Pray for power that could be used to continue the work of Jesus in the world.

# SATURDAY: ACTS 2.37-39

When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

Peter replied, "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. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

- Followers of Jesus spend their whole lives looking more and more like Jesus as he transforms us
  from the inside out. Sometimes we are called to repentance (turning around) even in the middle
  of a life of faith. Have you been cut to the heart in these difficult times? What do you feel you
  need to turn around from? Mark that turn around by telling one other person, being baptized, or
  remembering your baptism.
- Pray for a heart of repentance.