



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

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**AT HOME STUDY**

## WEEK SIX

In this last week of *The Promise* series, we look at the pattern of the early followers of Jesus. Hopefully you will identify with some of the elements of this pattern. Notice the parts of their pattern that you would like to dive into more deeply. If these brief daily readings and prayer prompts have helped you to establish new habits. Keep going!

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.

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### MONDAY: ACTS 2.1-4

*When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.*

- Have you ever had an experience of the Holy Spirit? What was that like? On Pentecost, the presence of the Spirit was quite obvious. Sometimes it's less obvious, like a nudge in your own spirit that gets your attention.
- Pray for a heart that is attentive to the Holy Spirit in big displays of power and gentle whispers that guide you home.

### TUESDAY: ACTS 2.42-47

*They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.*

- You can begin to see how that new power led the believers to live. Instead of trying to recreate the Pentecost experience on their own, they established a pattern of life that would keep it going.
- **Pray for a regular pattern of teaching, fellowship, breaking bread together, and prayer that keeps us tuned to the Spirit of God.**

WEDNESDAY: Matthew 28.19-20

*"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

- These words of Jesus to his disciples are a part of what we call the Great Commission. Followers of Jesus are called to be baptized and to learn about the ways of Jesus. Teaching and learning is a part of the pattern modeled and instructed by Jesus.
- **Pray for an openness to continual learning even as you begin to teach others about the depth of God's love for us.**

THURSDAY: 1 JOHN 1.3

*We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.*

- The word used for fellowship here is Koinonia. It expresses communion and sharing of life. God shared life with us through Jesus, and our fellowship can flow out of that. It's more than spending time together, it's spending life together. That is why it was such an important part of the pattern for the early church. As 1 John says, fellowship is connected to the proclamation of the great things God has done. What has God done in our life recently that you want to share with others in fellowship?
- **Pray for sustained fellowship guided by the Holy Spirit especially during these trying times.**

FRIDAY: LUKE 24.30-31, 35

*...he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him;*

*...they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.*

- Notice how Jesus too, blessed, broke and then gave the bread to them. The breaking of bread was a part of the pattern of the early church. Breaking bread is about more than eating. When bread is broken in Christian community, it is a sign and a symbol of the presence of Jesus!
- **Pray that you see Jesus in the breaking of bread and in shared meals with others.**

SATURDAY: PHILIPPIANS 4.6-7

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

- Prayer is at the center of the life of individual followers of Jesus, but also at the core of the shared life of believers. In a season of high anxiety, the Spirit empowered church can carry us

through prayer towards the peace of God. This pattern of the Spirit will keep our hearts ready for the next Pentecost-like invasion of the Holy Spirit!

- Pray for the Holy Spirit of God to give us power and purpose as we take part in the next movement of God.