

# ACTS

## Bible Study

2018-2019



## Lesson: 2

### Acts 2

### God Returns

Read this week's scripture and answer the questions below. As you read, consider how these verses fit into what you are seeing or experiencing today. Prepare to share with your small group anything that jumped out at you, confused you, encouraged you, challenged or convicted you. Then take some time to read and meditate on the psalm of the week.

1. Before you read chapter 1, ask God to help you not only understand but to live out this week's lesson as revealed in the word. Read all of Acts Chapter 2.
2. Consider verses 1-4. Throughout the old testament, God's presence is often indicated by fire (mt. Sinai, the tabernacle). What does it mean that tongues of fire came to rest on individuals in this passage? Let this thought lead you into prayer, into God's presence.
3. Read verses 5-12. The list of nations here represents the known world of the first century. Each language is spoken and understood. What might God be up to in this moment? Let this thought lead you to pray for unity and understanding among God's people.
4. Think on verses 14-21. Consider the fulfillment of prophecy. Meditate on the power that comes with the arrival of the spirit. Note the requirement and rest in the assurance of salvation offered by verse 21. Take these thoughts to prayer today. Worship the God of all history; seek the power of the spirit; call on the name of the lord, knowing that you are saved, known and loved.
5. Spend time in verses 22-37. Here is the gospel story. Jesus lived among men bringing miracles, signs and wonders: God's presence. God's own people rejected him and crucified him. But death did not have the last word. It could not hold Him. His resurrection has made known the paths of life. For the first time or the thousandth, let this amazing truth, this amazing grace lead you to praise.
6. Slow down and take in verses 38-40. Peter describes the only appropriate response to Christ's work on the cross: Repent and be baptized. Are there habits, thoughts, deeds in your life that lead you to repentance, to turn and walk a new direction. Have you been baptized? In what ways are you being called to put the old self down so that the new man might rise up? Do business with the Lord in prayer today.
7. Take in verses 42-47. Here we see a picture of the fellowship of believers. What stands out to you in these verses? How does this gathering compare to your community? How might you take steps to embody this type of living with your believing brothers and sisters. Don't try it alone. Ask the Father to be at work among his people today.

### ACTS 2:38

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"