

Acts 2:1-21; John 15:26-27 & 16:4-15. *The coming of the Spirit.*

Welcome	How did you learn to swim - gradually gaining confidence, or 'sink or swim' approach?
Worship ideas	<i>Suggested songs: Songs of Fellowship 40 Be still for the presence; 136 God of all comfort; 895 Lord, I come to you; 1030 The Lord's my shepherd; 1346 In Christ alone (NB files with c.30 more recent songs are available to borrow from the office)</i>
Word (refs.)	<i>some suggestions for discussion here – you might prefer to focus on just 2 or 3 questions</i>
<u>Read</u> Acts 2:1-21 (+ the rest of the chapter if you have time)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>vv.1-8</i> - Notice how often the words 'all/ each/ every' are used in vv.1-8. How is this reflected in the prophecy Peter quotes in vv.17-21? • <i>vv.5-12</i> - What draws the interest of the crowd in v.8 – and what does this miracle of 'tongues' say about the universality of the gospel? • The list places in vv.9-11 seems a bit obscure – but Bible maps can help locate them. Most of the people in Jerusalem that day would soon be returning to these countries, so how does this relate to Jesus' words in Acts 1:8? • What were the main effects of the Spirit coming on all the believers (see vv.41-47)? Two main reasons for the coming of the Spirit are often identified - to equip Jesus' followers for mission, and to make believers more like him. Are these separate effects, or do they go together? What is your experience of the help of the Holy Spirit in these areas?
<u>Read</u> John 15:26 -27 & 16:4-15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List the things Jesus says the Holy Spirit will do for the disciples in 15:26 and 16:8, 13-15 (see also 14:16-17; 14:26-27). Is this your experience? Which of these aspects of His ministry do you most value? • How does this help explain Jesus' statement that it is 'good' for the disciples that he is going away (16:7)?
Witness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Pray</u> for some of the following • for your mission link person(s) or project • for John and Shirley visiting SEAT projects in Nairobi this week, and for Kathy Howlett in central India • for each other – that the Holy Spirit will help us become more like Jesus and equip us to be his witnesses • for opportunities to reach out to family/ friends/ neighbours in the days ahead (eg St Barnabas Day, Father's Day on Sun 16 Jun) • <u>Plan</u> • an activity as a group during June or July to which you can invite those who are not yet Christians (eg summer barbecue, garden party, etc.)