

St John's Meads – Home Groups

God Sends: a Spirit-filled people



Review: Over recent weeks we have seen how God sends a people like us to every place, with a message. The questions rises 'how can we do such a job and fulfil such a task?

The late John Stott once wrote '*Without the Holy Spirit Christian discipleship would be inconceivable, even impossible. There can be no life without the life giver, no understanding without the Spirit of truth, no fellowship without the unity of the Spirit, no Christlikeness of character apart from, his fruit and no effective witness without his power. As a body without breathe is a corpse, so the church without the Spirit is dead*'. How do you react to this statement?

Discuss:



- Read Acts 2:1-13. Why was the receipt and surrender to the Holy Spirit critical to the early Church? In what ways have you seen the Holy Spirit at work in STJM, your home group and your own life?
- How ready do you feel to cooperate with the Spirit; to be guided by Him in direction, how and where to use your gifts? What barriers might you need to overcome?
- How can I be filled with the Spirit? On God's side He has poured out his spirit to his people at Pentecost to be with us for ever. Acts 2:39-40. On our side there is a response we have to make. The word **TOTAL** helps us reflect on our response:

T	Thirsty	Read John 7:37-39
O	Obedience	Read Acts 4:31 and 5:32.
T	Turning (Repentance)	Read Acts 2:39-40
A	Ask	Read Luke 11:13
L	Leaning (Relying and Resting)	Read Gal 3:3

Summary and conclusion. God doesn't force the Spirit upon us. He waits for our response. We have a choice to make. It's like travelling in a car. We can either decide to push the car along with our own strength or decide it is simpler and more sensible to take it to the nearest garage and fill the tank with petrol. How far down the list of **total** have you got? You could take further steps now.

Pray: Pray that our hearts will be prepared to give God total control of our lives in order that we might find our place in God's Mission. And that we will be open to the prompting of the Spirit at next week's 'Time and Talents' services. Amen

