

WEEKLY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Week of Sunday April 19, 2026

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INTRODUCTION

In **Acts 2:1–21**, God is not returning to a building or restoring a place people must travel to in order to meet Him. Instead, He is inviting His people into a new reality where His presence lives within them and moves through their lives. Many people still live as if God is distant, waiting for the “right place” or “right moment” to encounter Him, while also feeling the tension of loneliness, fear, or spiritual inconsistency. This passage shifts that thinking and calls us to recognize that God is already near and actively working in and through us. Today’s conversation is about what it looks like to actually live like that is true.

Main Passage:

Acts 2:1–21

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The Glory Returns

READ ALOUD

Acts 2:1–21

Opening Question: When have you felt especially aware of God’s presence or, on the other hand, distant from Him?

- What stands out to you about what happens when the Spirit comes in this passage?
- What do you notice about how people respond to what God is doing?
- What does this moment reveal about how God wants to relate to His people now?
- How might your daily life change if you truly believed God’s presence is with you wherever you go?

APPLY

- Where in your life do you tend to act like God is distant instead of present?
- What is one situation this week where you need courage to live out your faith more openly?
- What does it look like for you to “yield” to God in a practical, everyday way?

RESPOND

- What is one step you can take this week to be more aware of God’s presence?
- • Who is one person in your life who could experience God through you this week?

DIGGING DEEPER *(optional)*

Read Aloud: Acts 2:22–47

- What do you notice about how people respond after hearing Peter’s message?
- How does this section show the impact of God’s Spirit on a community?
- What themes connect this part of the chapter to what we saw earlier?

PRAY

Take a few moments to quietly reflect on where you may have been living as if God is distant. Ask God to help you recognize His presence in your daily life. Invite Him to give you courage to respond in obedience and boldness. If needed, confess areas where you have resisted or ignored Him. Thank Jesus that His Spirit is with you and working in you.

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILIES

Acts 2:1–21

- What happened when the Holy Spirit came to the people in this story?
- Why is it important that God is with us and not far away?
- Where can we show God’s love to others this week?
- How can we remember that God is with us every day?

For younger children: Remind them that Jesus is always with them and they can talk to Him anytime.

For older kids or students: What is one place in your life where you need to live more boldly because God is with you?

BIBLE READING PLAN (OPTIONAL)

Scripture to read as you pray this week:

- **Day 1:** Acts 3:1–10
- **Day 2:** Acts 3:11–16
- **Day 3:** Acts 3:17–21
- **Day 4:** Acts 3:22–23
- **Day 5:** Acts 3:24–26

What's Going On?

Acts 2 is the fulfillment of a story that runs through all of Scripture. In the Old Testament, God's presence showed up in powerful ways, but it was tied to specific places like the tabernacle and temple. People had to go somewhere to encounter Him, and access was limited.

Here, everything changes. Because of Jesus, the barrier between God and people is removed, and His presence is no longer confined to a place. The same fire that once marked where God dwelled now rests on people. This is the beginning of the Church, not as a building, but as a people who carry God's presence wherever they go. It also marks the expansion of God's mission, as the message of Jesus begins moving outward to all nations.

A Bit of Background

Pentecost was a major Jewish festival held 50 days after Passover. It was originally a harvest celebration, but it also came to represent when God gave the Law on Mount Sinai. Because of this, themes like fire, sound, and God revealing Himself would have been familiar to the people gathered.

Large crowds traveled to Jerusalem for this festival, which explains the different languages in Acts 2. The temple was central to their worship, seen as the place where