

# The coming of the Holy Spirit

Luke 24:44-49

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We often think about Acts 1:8 when we think about the Great Commission:

*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

We find in the gospel of Luke an impactful message for us today that serves as a broader context for those famous words of Jesus found in Acts 1:8. I want us to look at the time after his resurrection and moving towards what we know as Pentecost. Pentecost Sunday is the celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit to the Church.

Let's look at Luke 24:44-49:

*<sup>44</sup> He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." <sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup> He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."*

In these verses we can observe how the disciples were given:

1. An understanding of scriptures – This gave them clarity of the gospel. They suddenly understood all that was written in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms (Luke 24:44-45).
2. A purpose to proclaim – Jesus gives them a vision of how the gospel will spread to the ends of the earth. He tells them the gospel is to be proclaimed to all nations (Luke 24:46-48).
3. The power to be witnesses – Jesus gives them assurance that they will not be on their own. The Holy Spirit will come to them and empower them as witnesses as the gospel spreads (Luke 24:49).

## Conclusion

As Christ followers we seek to understand the scripture through meditation, prayer, Bible study and listening to Bible teaching.

As Christ followers we have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in our lives that gives us power to proclaim the gospel.

As Christ followers we are to be witnesses to what God has done in our life, in the church today and throughout history.

Individually we are witnesses wherever we live, work and play.

Collectively we are witnesses as a church as we participate in the Great Commission.