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# **PRAYER**

Dearest Abba Father, thank you for your son, Jesus Christ, and thank you for your Holy Spirit that you sent to help us navigate through life. May we learn to rely more on your Holy Spirit to hear your voice when you speak, and may we act upon your direction when prompted. In the mighty name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

#### WARM UP

(OPTIONAL)

If you could have one super power for a week, what would it be and why?

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# **WORD**

<sup>1</sup> In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, <sup>2</sup> until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup> He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup> And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; <sup>5</sup> for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

<sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup> He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." <sup>9</sup> And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, <sup>11</sup> and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

#### ACTS 1:1-11

<sup>3</sup> Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. <sup>2</sup> And a man lame from birth was being carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple that is called the Beautiful Gate to ask alms of those entering the temple. <sup>3</sup> Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. <sup>4</sup> And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." <sup>5</sup> And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. <sup>6</sup> But Peter said, "I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!"

<sup>7</sup> And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. <sup>8</sup> And leaping up, he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. <sup>9</sup> And all the people saw him walking and praising God, <sup>10</sup> and recognized him as the one who sat at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, asking for alms. And they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

ACTS 3:1-10

At a high level, Acts Chapters 1-3 outline the promise of the Father to send his Holy Spirit and the ascension of Jesus. We also see the manifestation of the Holy Spirit in an amazing and spectacular way. Peter steps up to preach his first sermon, in which 3000 people are saved, and we see a miracle happen through the leading of Peter and John, as the Holy Spirit guides them to a lame man while on their normal daily life.

#### ► GUIDE QUESTIONS

(NUMBERED ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF DEPTH AND READINESS TO SHARE)

- 1. On a scale of 1-10 (1 = never; 10 = always), how do you rate your awareness and reliance on the Holy Spirit in your life?
- 2. How good are you at waiting for people or for things to happen? What thoughts go through your mind when you are waiting?
- 3. What do you understand is the purpose of the Holy Spirit being sent, and how does this play out in your life? If it doesn't, why not?
- 4. If you read Acts 2:2-4, what are some key things they did before and during the manifestation of the power of the Holy Spirit? Are these things we can do today? How can that look like in practical ways?
- 5. Are you filled with the Holy Spirit to the point where you can sense his promptings when you step out in obedience and get to see the fruit of his work? Can you share an experience when you stepped out under the leading of the Holy Spirit and something miraculous happened? (e.g. salvation, healing, or provision).
- 6. If you do not yet have a relationship with the God who saves us, and sets us free from trying to pointlessly work our way into righteousness, would you like to follow him and enter into a saving relationship with him through Jesus? Ask your Life Group leader to lead you in prayer to receive Christ. You can pray this prayer with them:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe you died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite you to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow you as my Lord and Saviour. In Jesus' name, Amen.