



## OPENING PRAYER

Father, thank You for sending the Holy Spirit to dwell within Your people. Open our hearts to hear Your voice, soften anything that has become resistant to You, and shape us into people who live under Your leadership every day. Prepare us—not merely for an experience of Your presence—but to participate in Your mission. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## OPENING QUESTION<sup>(OPTIONAL)</sup>

Have you ever prepared for something significant—a wedding, sporting event, exam, holiday or new job?

What did your preparation reveal about what mattered most?



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## WORD

4 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; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with [b] the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

6 So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7 He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. 8 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.”

- **Acts 1:4-8 (ESV)**

### Introduction

Throughout Scripture, God pours out His Spirit upon ordinary people.

Throughout church history, the same pattern continues.

Jerusalem.

Antioch.

Wales.

The Hebrides.

Asbury.

Different generations.

Different cultures.

Different people.

Yet before every outpouring there was a common posture.

Not perfect people.

Not famous people.

People who had surrendered themselves to the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

The greatest question isn't whether we desire revival.

The greater question is:

Are we becoming the kind of people who are ready for God to entrust with His mission?

Because the Holy Spirit was never given simply so believers could have powerful experiences.

The Holy Spirit was given so ordinary disciples could become extraordinary witnesses to Jesus.

## MAIN REFLECTION POINTS (REFINED)

### 1. Living Under the Lordship of the Holy Spirit

Throughout the sermon we saw seven common postures:

Expectation

Humility

Confession

Hidden Prayer

Flexibility

Willingness to be inconvenienced

Unity

These aren't techniques.

They are evidence that the Holy Spirit is leading our lives.

### Read Acts 1:8.

### Reflection

What stands out to you most about the purpose Jesus gives for the Holy Spirit?

Which of the seven postures challenges you the most right now? Why?

What does it practically look like for the Holy Spirit to be Lord—not simply welcomed—in your everyday life?

### 2. The Gospel Changes Our Posture

The Gospel reminds us that we don't prepare ourselves so God will love us.

We prepare our hearts because God already has.

Jesus has already made us clean through His death and resurrection.

The Holy Spirit now forms us into people who increasingly resemble Christ.

We don't pursue holiness to earn acceptance.

We pursue holiness because we have already been accepted.

## MAIN REFLECTION POINTS (REFINED)

**Read Titus 3:4–7.**

### Reflection

How does the Gospel protect us from turning these postures into religious performance?

Which posture grows naturally when you remember what Christ has already done for you?

Where are you tempted to rely more on your own strength than on the Holy Spirit?

### 3. The Holy Spirit Always Leads Us Outward

Pentecost didn't end in the Upper Room.

It overflowed into the streets.

Every genuine move of the Holy Spirit has always resulted in greater love for people, greater compassion for the lost, greater generosity, greater courage and greater mission.

Spirit-filled people don't simply gather.

They go.

**Read Acts 2:37–47.**

### Reflection

What evidence do you see that the Holy Spirit transformed both the Church and the surrounding community?

How should being filled with the Spirit change the way we relate to our neighbours, workplaces and city?

Who has God already placed in your life that may be waiting for someone to simply love, serve or share Christ with them?

## MAIN REFLECTION POINTS (REFINED)

### 4. Becoming the Kind of Church God Can Entrust

We cannot manufacture revival.

We cannot manufacture awakening.

But we can become people who continually say “yes” to the Holy Spirit.

God is looking for surrendered hearts long before He looks for gifted people.

### Reflection

As a LIFE GROUP:

If the Holy Spirit chose to deeply move through Every Nation Brisbane, what kind of church would He find?

What kind of people would He find?

What would need to grow?

What would need to change?

### Group Application

Prayerfully choose **one** posture to intentionally practise this week.

Share your commitment with the group.

Pray for one another's faithfulness.

Then ask one final question:

**Who is one person that God may be preparing me to serve, encourage, invite or share Jesus with this week?**

The Spirit forms us for mission.

## CLOSING PRAYER

### **Commissioning Prayer**

(To be read by the LIFE GROUP Leader over the group.)

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for calling us into Your family through the finished work of Jesus Christ.

Thank You for giving us Your Holy Spirit—not simply to comfort us, but to transform us and send us.

Today we surrender ourselves again to Your leadership.

Make us a people marked by humility instead of pride.

Expectation instead of complacency.

Prayer instead of self-reliance.

Holiness instead of compromise.

Unity instead of division.

Courage instead of comfort.

Holy Spirit, have Your way in us before You work through us.

Search our hearts.

Correct our motives.

Strengthen our obedience.

Fill us afresh with Your power so that our lives point people to Jesus.

As we leave this place, send us into our homes, workplaces, schools, universities and neighbourhoods as faithful ambassadors of Christ.

May our words carry grace.

May our actions reflect Your love.

May our lives bear witness to the Gospel.

Use Every Nation Brisbane to see disciples made, leaders developed, churches planted and nations reached—for the glory of Jesus Christ alone.

We gladly place our calendars, our comfort, our ambitions and our future into Your hands.

Holy Spirit,

Lead us.

Empower us.

Interrupt us.

Send us.

In the mighty name of Jesus we pray.

Amen.