

# When God Turns Up



**authentic community happens** Acts 2:42-47

**Birkdale Baptist Church**  
**Small group studies**

*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 breath is a corpse, so the church without the Spirit is dead. Luke is well aware of this and emphasizes the power of the Spirit throughout Acts, especially in Acts 2, which is all about the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit comes and his subsequent impact on the church.*

## **OPEN IT**

1. What possessions do you have that you enjoy sharing with others?

2. Which of your belongings would you not want to share with anyone else? Why?

3. What do you devote yourself to *daily*?

## **DIG INTO IT**

*Read Acts 2:12-47*

4. How did the new believers grow in their faith?

5. How did the new believers approach what they did? (2:42)

6. What lifestyle (self-centred, family-centred or others-centred) did the early believers adopt? (2:44-45)

7. How often did the believers meet and where did they meet? (2:46)

8. What was the reaction of the general population to the emerging church, and what caused that reaction? (Acts 2:43)

## **GET IT**

9. Why did the emerging church adopt an others-centred lifestyle?

10. What would be some of the negatives or positives of meeting regularly with our Christian brothers and sisters?

11. What “miracles” have we witnessed in our church fellowship recently?

12. How do the activities of the early church compare with the activities of our church?

13. How could our church be more like the early church?

14. How do my activities and way of life contribute to our church being the way it is currently?

15. What changes has Jesus made in my life?

## **APPLY IT**

16. Our church is composed of people and I am one of them. What can I do this week to help change our church to be more like the early church?

17. How can my daily prayers help bring about spiritual renewal in my life and then in our church fellowship?

18. In what area of my life have I refused to give the Holy Spirit complete control?

**Bibliography:** 1) Acts—Seeing the Spirit At Work, John Stott 1998 on Lessonworks. 2) Kingdom Power: Receiving the Power of the Promise (A Study in the Book of Acts) Jack W. Hayford 1993 on Lessonworks. 3) NT Lesson Maker, Navpress 1992. 4) NIV Serendipity Bible, Zondervan 1988. 5) Life Lessons from the Inspired Word of God - Book of Acts, Max Lucado, 1997 on Lessonworks.