

Plant • Grow • Harvest | Home Group Guide

"Church" February 10, 2019 - Mark Swayze

GATHER (choose one Gather question to share as everyone settles in to the group time)

- On a scale from 1 to 4, how has your week been?
- Where have you seen God this week?
- What is one joy you want to share with the group this week?

PLANT/GROW

- 1. One of the most astonishing twists in God's drama involves the way in which the early Christians came to believe that Jesus really was *with them* in all that they were doing.
- What event led to this belief that Jesus was working in and through the first Christians after the ascension?
- Discuss the following statement: According to the early Jesus-followers, the church's chapter began at the
 moment when God exhaled his Spirit from the resurrected body of Jesus into the sin-scarred bodies of
 people like you and me. It was a kind of divine CPR, and the effects were tangible. People were
 changed; they said it was this Breath (God's oxygen inside them) that enabled broken individuals—
 racists, cowards, and thieves— to begin to speak and live in ways that actually made the world a more
 beautiful place.
- In what ways have you experienced the Holy Spirit transforming your heart and mind throughout your life? Be specific.

Read Acts 2:1–11 and then discuss the following questions:

When God's Spirit came, the disciples suddenly found themselves communicating the Jesus-message
meaningfully with people who were very different from them. Discuss a time when you were able to
communicate the Jesus-message to someone who normally would not be receptive to it. When did
someone do this for you?

PRAYERS

• Share prayer requests around the group and then either the leader or a volunteer can pray for the group. You may want to jot down those requests so you can remember to follow up next week.