**“Mover & Shaker”**

Going deeper in Acts 2:22-38

**INTRODUCTION** – Many are in Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of Weeks (a harvest feast 50 days after Passover). Jesus has been resurrected and forty days after the resurrection He has ascended into heaven. It is now the fiftieth day (time of Feast of Weeks) and the Holy Spirit has come upon the disciples and those who have gathered. There has been a violent wind in the house and they have seen tongues of fire descending on those gathered and they began to speak in other languages and those listening heard in their own language. People are amazed and confused. Peter stands to explain.

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.*

22 “Fellow Israelites, listen carefully to these words: Jesus of Nazareth was a man thoroughly accredited by God to you through miracles, wonders, and signs that God performed through him, as you yourselves know. 23 This Jesus, following the deliberate and well thought out plan of God, was taken by lawless hands, crucified, and put to death. 24 But God resurrected him, loosening the ropes of death because it was impossible for death to hold him. 25 King David said it all:

I saw the Lord before me for all time. Nothing can shake me because he is at my right hand. 26 Therefore my heart rejoiced and my tongue is glad; my body also will live in hope. 27 I know you will not abandon me to Hades; nor will you allow your Holy One to see corruption. 28 You have put me on the road of life; you will fill me with the joy of your presence.

29 Men and brethren, let me be completely up front with you about the patriarch David. Our ancestor David is both dead and buried and his tomb is here today. 30 But being a prophet and knowing that God had solemnly sworn that a descendant of his would rule his kingdom, 31 he foresaw the resurrection of Christ and that his soul would not be left in Hades, nor would his body experience the corruption of death. 32 This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. 33 He has been exalted to the right hand of God and having received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit he has poured out what you now see and hear. 34 For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: “The Lord said to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand 35 until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.” 36 “Therefore, let all of Israel know this: There’s no room for doubt – God made him the Lord and the Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.” 37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” 38 Peter said, “Change the direction of your life, turn to God and be baptized, every one of you, so that your sins are forgiven and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

**ENGAGE** – *Questions for going deeper. God is speaking… to you.*

1. How was God’s plan at work in Jesus’ crucifixion? How has He been at work in some of the hard things you have gone through?

2. What does the quote from King David from Psalm 16:8-11 have to do with Jesus’ resurrection?

3. Why do you think that God waited to Pentecost (Feast of Weeks) a harvest feast to send the Holy Spirit?

4. How might the speaking in different languages be connected to Jesus’ admonition that they would be witnesses even to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). What might being filled with the Holy Spirit have to do with being a witness?

5. How is being filled with the Holy Spirit connected to faith in Jesus?

**PRAY** – *God has spoken. So, reply.*

\*Thank the Lord for His work in your life.

\*Thank the Lord for His work in the lives of the people close to you. Lift them up to Him one by one.

\*Ask the Spirit of God to fill you again for the tasks that the Lord has for you.

**LIVE** – *This is where the rubber hits the road.*

The Holy Spirit is involved in the creation of the world (Genesis 1:2) and now in the creation of the church. What new thing does God want to do or create in your life? Will you be open to His movements in your life this week?