

It Begins

No story matters more than the story of Jesus

For the follower of Jesus, the Holy Spirit does what only God can do.

Acts 2.5-13

The spreading of the story of Jesus, the Gospel, depends on the Holy Spirit working through the followers of Jesus.

He Came, It Began

5 Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven.

6 And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together,

7 They were amazed and astonished, saying, “Why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 And how is it that we each hear them in our own language to which we were born?

9 Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya around Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabs—

we hear them in our own tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God.”

12 And they all continued in amazement and great perplexity, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” 13 But others were mocking and saying, “They are full of sweet wine.”

The coming of the Holy Spirit was the coming of the Gospel of Jesus for all people and cultures. It began.

Who Gets To Hear About Jesus?

As the book of Acts progresses, we see an ongoing tension concerning how different groups receive and respond to the Gospel.

The story of Jesus, the Gospel, never changes. How we present it does.

Don't confuse the message with messaging.

Stop expecting people who are not followers of Jesus to act like followers of Jesus in order to become followers of Jesus.

I don't look for things we have in common. I try to be common, but not phony. I try to communicate in a way people will understand.

The Holy Spirit Wills to work and Will work in the life of every follower and church.

At some point you and I will decide who gets to hear the story of Jesus