



# Small group discussion questions May 2016

## Chapter & verse – John Proctor (page 18)


Read Acts 2:1-21 followed by John Proctor's article.

1. What are the sights and sounds of the passage in Acts 2? If you had witnessed the event Luke describes, what would your experience have been?
2. John says in paragraph two: “God the maker is reshaping the story of earth”. In what way does Pentecost do this?
3. In paragraph three, John says that the flame “speaks of mystery, presence and promise”. What does it say about such things?
4. If Pentecost reverses the story of Babel, as John suggests in paragraph four, what are the results of that reversal?
5. The Spirit does not “scrub out all we have been before”, says John in paragraph seven. What difference does this make to our lives as Christians?
6. Do you have experience God kindling potential and calling in the arid places of life, as John describes in paragraph eight? How might this change the way we view hard times?
7. Do you find the Holy Spirit to be a go-between in your dealings with people, as John suggests in paragraph nine? How would your communication be different with more of the Spirit’s going-between? And how might you bring that about?
8. What experience do you have of “the creation of fellowship across the barriers and division of human experience”? Which differences between people today most need that creation of fellowship – in your own life, in the life of the Church and in the wider world?

For further reflection: “I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my spirit upon your descendants, and my blessing on your offspring.” Isaiah 44:3


Prayer: Breathe your breath into us, Spirit of God; light your fire within us; loosen our tongues; and overcome the things that divide us. Amen.

**John Proctor Chapter & verse**  
“Pentecost speaks to the old story. And perhaps to your story and mine”



... All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit...  
... What about the rest? ...  
... All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit...  
... What about the rest? ...

**Will Pentecost ring a bell for you?**



John Proctor is a retired minister of the Church of England. He is the author of the book 'The Holy Spirit: A Guide for the 21st Century'.