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We believe in the operation of the gifts of the Holy Spirit and the gifts of Christ in the Church today.

We are a Pentecostal church and Pentecostal believers; and what we read in acts 19:1-6 is the very essence of the statement, Pentecostal and the clear reason for its birth as a series of denominations. And yet its reason isn't clear to many, but to imagine those times is to understand, and in that understanding we gain our heritage back and can see how biblical their work was. In 1907 the first instances of baptism of the Holy Spirit in the 20th century were seen in Sunderland. Groups of believers all over the country then began to speak in tongues, and the reaction from the established churches was they must desist or be excommunicated. And many normal everyday people like Amy Entwistle, a mill worker from Blackburn, left everything to preach the gospel in the Congo, and in that we see how very life changing this infilling had been.

However, the majority church called them a cult. So the Pentecostal believers had a message they needed to share and even though every town and village had a church, and many British colonies and others had missionaries, they were not teaching the whole council of God, and so the whole world was a mission field, every town was to be evangelized. Did they have a new salvation? The answer is no, but like Paul here they knew that they must share the message of the infilling of the Holy Spirit, the Pentecostal experience, And the receiving meeting was established, Like Paul here in Acts 19 they wanted to instruct believers as well as outreach to the Lost that they may all share in the Gift of God.

It is important that we understand something very clear. The in-filling of the Holy Spirit and salvation are separate events. One is given freely to all who repent, the other is given freely to those who are thirsty. But not thirsty for a jolly, or God's power, or to be a show man, but to share in the message of the gospel, to convict men of sin, righteousness and judgment to come. And with the in-filling of the Holy Spirit we read that comes the doonamis of the Lord in the 9 gifts, an effectiveness in your message as determined by the Spirit, diversity of experience in a life led by the Spirit, and your ministries as determined by the Holy Spirit. Without the in-filling of the Holy Spirit you are determined to work at those things in your own power, but this is impossible, so we really have no choice, we must be about our Father's business and this is not a mystery.

Finally, we learn from scripture that without you and I looking to walk and conform to the leading of the Spirit we will not overcome the flesh nature or exhibit the fruits of the Holy Spirit which are the nature of God, we cannot strive to do them, only to be filled with the Spirit. This is what those early Pentecostals found and shared and I share it with you today. As Paul shared it with these who then received the Holy Spirit,