

The Mystery of Turning Inspiration into Discipline
The Lakefront Church and First Baptist Church - Venice, Florida
One Church - Two Locations September 21, 2025

Acts 2:6-13 (Amplified) *And when this sound was heard, a crowd gathered, and they were bewildered because each one was hearing those in the upper room speaking in his own language or dialect.⁷ They were completely astonished, saying, "Look! Are not all of these who are speaking Galileans?*

⁸Then how is it that each of us hears in our own language or native dialect? —we all hear them speaking in our [native] tongues about the mighty works of God!"¹² And they were beside themselves with amazement and were greatly perplexed, saying one to another, "What could this mean?"¹³ But others were laughing and joking and ridiculing them, saying, "They are full of sweet wine and are drunk!" ... BUT OTHERS ³⁷When they heard this, they were pierced to the heart and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" ³⁸Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, each of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you and for your children, and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call."⁴⁰ With many other words he testified and strongly urged them, saying, "Be saved from this corrupt generation!"⁴¹ So those who accepted his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand people were added to them. ⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer. ⁴³Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and signs were being performed through the apostles.

5 different reactions to the same sermon

1. *Some were bewildered, astonished - They are one of us!*
2. *Some were beside themselves with Amazement - Nothing like this has ever happened.*

Matt 12:22-23 *Then a demon-possessed man who was blind and unable to speak was brought to [Jesus] him. He healed him, so that the man could both speak and see.²³ All the crowds were astounded*

Mark 2:4ff *Since they were not able to bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and after digging through it, they lowered the mat on which the paralytic was lying. ⁵Seeing their faith, Jesus told the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." ...¹²Immediately he got up, took the mat, and went out in front of*

everyone. As a result, they were all astounded and gave glory to God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

3. Some were greatly *perplexed* - (puzzled, confused)
 - They are one of us. I have never seen anything like this.

Luke 24:2-4 *On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came to the tomb, bringing the spices they had prepared. ² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb. ³ They went in but did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men stood by them in dazzling clothes.*

4. Some *mocked and laughed*

Mark 5:38 *They came to the leader's house, and he saw a commotion—people weeping and wailing loudly. ³⁹ He went in and said to them, "Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but asleep." ⁴⁰ They laughed at Him, but He put them all outside.*

5. Some heard the same sermon and *BELIEVED*

Acts 2:37 ff *When they heard this, they were pierced to the heart ... ⁴¹ So those who accepted his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand people were added to them. ⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and signs were being performed through the apostles.*

- The true mystery of moving from inspiration to discipline lies in the choices you make.
- Inspiration is an emotion, but God created us to live by principles.
- If you only move by your emotions, you will never fulfill God's purpose for you!
- Spiritual growth is not automatic; it is intentional.
- You must push yourself, challenge yourself, and confront yourself. Vs 42