

I. Synopsis

Dr. Laurence J. Peter noticed that across cultures people strive to be promoted. Most often, people are promoted based on their current successes but not necessarily because their gifts align with the new position. As a result, Dr. Peter explains in his book, The Peter Principle, that people are often promoted to their level of incompetency. Conversely, in the Kingdom of God, we are equipped by God's Spirit to do ministry, in ways that are beyond our wildest imaginations.

II. Ice Breaker Question

In The Peter Principle, Dr. Peter coined the phrase, "the cream rises to the top until it sours." Are there examples in the professional world where this concept is true?

III. **Scripture:** Acts 2: 1-4, 14-41 (ESV)

IV. Discussion Questions

Peter is one of Jesus' closest friends who abandoned Jesus during His darkest hour. Last week, we read about how Peter was restored by God's grace and commissioned to "feed my lambs" (John 21:17).

1. Prior to the gift of the Holy Spirit being poured out at Pentecost, the Eleven Apostles were found locked in the upper room, terrified. Why do you suppose they were afraid? As you read through Acts 2, how would you describe Peter's character? To what do you attribute this transformation?
2. What type of gifts does the Holy Spirit give to Peter in order to preach Acts 2:14-41? What is the fruit of Peter's message? What other types of gifts do you suppose the Holy Spirit gives to Peter in order to fulfill Jesus' commission to "feed my lambs?"
3. The Holy Spirit equips Peter to a role given specifically to him for God's kingdom. Likewise, the Holy Spirit equips each of us for His glory. Share with one another how you see each other being equipped. What gifts do you see in one another? Pray for the Holy Spirit to equip the church with the gifts needed to extend God's kingdom.

V. Dig Deeper

As people shared about the gifts that they see in you, what surprised you? Is the way you see yourself different from the way others see you, why? Pray that you may see yourself as God sees you.