Don’t Get Lost On The Way To The Upper Room

Acts 1:13
13 And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room...

Acts 2:1-4
1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.
2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.
3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.
4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

AND WHEN…AND WHEN…AND WHEN…AND WHEN!

Does anyone know what happened when the disciples, and the other 108 people finally, yes, finally, came together, got on the same page, cut out the bickering for a while, focused on, pressed in, surrendered to, gave way, allowed, and obeyed?
  o Hmmm?
  o Tell me!

This is Jesus speaking: Luke 24:49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.
  o Tarry ye ~ Remain there. Stay Put!
  o Tarry ye until ye be endued, what is endued?
    ▪ Greek: enduo, put on, be clothed with, be clothed in, and be arrayed in,
    ▪ Anyone clothed with this power is able to receive confirmation on what they testify, or preach!

The Word Power in Greek is dunamis: inherent power; the power of reproducing itself.
It is the fulfillment of the promised Holy Ghost, which gives power to do the works of Christ, in a Baptismal measure.

In other words, when you are endued with power, you will be confirmed of what you are testifying to, and you will be able to replicate yourself in others.
• You will be a disciple. Discipling others!

• The resurrection had happened.
  o Jesus had first appeared unto Mary in the garden.
  o Then Jesus appeared through the locked doors and the wall and revealed Himself to the disciples.
  o Then Jesus taught the Disciples and said He would send the comforter.

• This small group of men that had followed Jesus around for about three years stood and watched as Jesus disappeared up out of their sight as He began His trip back to heaven.
  o RINGING in their ears was the words, “Don’t leave Jerusalem, stay here until you are endowed with My power.”
  o What CHOICES did they have except to OBEY and take their chances.

• Now they were ALONE in a very hostile world, a would that was out to destroy anyone who allied themselves with this man they called “Jesus.”
  o The church-world in which they had grown up had now become their “Bounty Hunters” they had a price on their heads!

• We can only SPECULATE on the things that went through the minds of those disciples on their way to the upper room during the time AFTER Jesus went back to heaven.

• A tremendous amount of things depended on the disciples following through on what Jesus had told them to do.
  o The total existence of the Church rested on the shoulders of these disciples.

• The Bible records there were about 500 on that hillside that day that saw Jesus go up in the clouds.
  o But unfortunately there were only about 120 who made it to the Upper Room.

• But those who found their way to that upper room began the process of obedience.
• Jesus had very thoroughly COMMUNICATED His message to them
so that they KNEW exactly what He wanted them to do.

- Jesus had left His disciples with a COMMAND: *And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.* Luke 24:49
  - This was not a suggestion! – This was a Command!

- Jesus had left His disciples with a COMMISSION: *But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.* Acts 1:8
  - Power for SERVICE! – Not just for FEELING!

- Jesus had left His disciples with an EXAMPLE: *And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book:* John 20:30
  - To whom also he showed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. Acts 1:3

- Jesus had left His disciples with a CHALLENGE: “Stay in Jerusalem UNTIL!”
  - When those disciples noticed how many made their way to the UPPER ROOM they only counted 120 out of the 500 that were there when Jesus gave the COMMAND to stay until they were empowered with the Holy Spirit.
  - 380 people had chosen NOT to make the personal COMMITMENT that was required in order to be FILLED with the Holy Spirit!

- There used to be a cigarette commercial that said, “We’ve come a long way baby.”
  - We have come over 2,000 years from that time.
  - Christianity has also come a long way.
  - From having to meet on the river banks and hiding out in darkened rooms and out somewhere on a lonely hillside to great elaborate buildings and cathedrals.
  - Instead of trying to find a hillside where the sound could be heard
by everyone we have some of the finest amplification systems available.
  o We can broadcast to thousands inside or outside and anyone can hear the message that wants to hear.

  o Instead of sitting on the ground we have padded seats, instead of walking to church we have air-conditioned cars that can get to church in record time.
  o Instead of the authorities threatening to arrest us for coming to church they will protect us from harm.
  o Instead of hovering around the dim light of a candle to be able to read one precious copy of someone’s Scriptures we have brilliant lighting and everyone can have their own complete Bible. WOW!

• Instead of seeing THOUSANDS SAVED…only a trickle of people are being saved.
  o Instead of DEVILS being CASTED OUT…devils have woven their way into too many churches UNDETECTED!
  o Instead of Christians carrying a CROSS…the cross has become only a piece of JEWLERY to wear as an earring or on a necklace!
    ▪ Prayer has almost become NON-EXISTENT in the lives of too many Christians.
  o Instead of FASTING…we have a mountain of diets to help trim off those unwanted extra POUNDS!

• With all the advantages at our disposal the whole world should have already EVANGELIZED!
  o “We Must Have An Upper Room Experience”
  o We cannot get lost on our way to the Upper Room.

• The Upper Room was a “Waiting Room” for the NEEDY!
  o The Upper Room was a “Room for Improvement” for those who had FAILED!
  o The Upper Room was a “Maintenance Room” that would provide on-going repair and adjustments.
  o The Upper Room was the “Power Room” for those who were WEAK!
  o The Upper Room was the room of the “Optometrist” to RESTORE the LOSS of VISION!
  o The Upper Room was the COUNSELLOR’S room to RESTORE
“Relationships.”

- A lot of things transpired in that Upper Room:
  - Men and Women who had been ruled by their senses are suddenly born into the spirit realm.
  - They had now received the nature of God never again to be ruled by evil forces.
  - The sin problem had been settled, and they had become New Creatures, created in Christ Jesus.

- Gathered there in the Upper Room, unaware that they had inherited a New Covenant that was initiated when they were born of the Spirit.
  - They had not awakened to the fact that it was a spiritual circumcision instead of physical.
  - That God had taken away their stony heart and written a new law in their heart of flesh.

- Serious thinking happened in the Upper Room.
  - Prioritizing things in their lives – Praying – Making Promises –
  - Thinking about WHY is this happening –
  - Realizing we MUST allow someone else who knows how to remedy the problem to take care of things.

- The RESULT: They came out of the Upper Room CLOTHED with the POWER of God!
- The Holy Spirit CONFIRMED their MINISTRIES without QUESTION.
- They were endued with POWER –
  - Tell somebody, “I’m gonna be endued.”

- Christ came that we may have life, and life MORE ABUNDANTLY!
- MORE ABUNDANTLY comes with the infilling, or enduing of the Holy Spirit, and with Fire!
  - Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

- After He told them to wait in Jerusalem, He told them why.
  - They’re going to receive power.
Not just power, but POWER!

- Acts 2:1-4 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

- So they did what He said, and on the day of Pentecost, all of a sudden, from out of no where…
  - Whhhhhhhhhshhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!
  - Listen, can you hear that?
  - What is it?
  - Whhoooshhhowoooshhhooosoo!
    - Wow, I’m getting tingly all over!
    - Man! We better pray!
    - Maybe the world is coming to an end! Pray! Everyone! Pray!
    - What’s happening to my mouth!
    - What am I saying?
    - What did you say?
    - Huh?

- What is this powerful wind?
  - This wind was a SUDDEN WIND!
  - Someone shout Suddenly!

- Out of nowhere, but from everywhere, the Holy Ghost filled that place and filled it SUDDENLY!
  - What we need here in this church is a suddenly!
  - We need a suddenly today!
  - We need a suddenly right now!
  - We need some families to have a suddenly in them!

- We need that suddenly to come in and WHHHSWSHHHOOSH out that sin and that complacency, and remove that doubt and indifference and move them into the face of God, so they will encounter His Glory!
• Once you’ve experienced His Glory, you won’t wander around half-baked in your Christian life anymore!
  o You’ll be fully cooked!

• Somebody in here today, right now is wanting your suddenly!
  o GET IT!
  o ITS YOURS IF YOU WANT IT!

• SOMEBODY SHOUT SUDDENLY!

• Suddenly, It filled all the house where they were sitting!
  o FILL THIS HOUSE HOLY GHOST! RIGHT NOW!
  o FILL THIS TEMPLE LORD!

• And there appeared cloven tongues like as of FIRE, and it sat upon each one of them,

• And they were ALL ~
  o Someone say ~ ALL!
  o Filled with the Holy Ghost, and they began to speak with tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.
    ▪ I want this entire sanctuary to be filled with the Holy Ghost and Fire!
    ▪ That’s what I want.
    ▪ What do you want?
    ▪ I want it all!

• YOU’VE GOTTA HAVE THE POWER OF THE HOLY GHOST!
  o You need the Holy Ghost to make it in this world today.
  o Don’t you know that you have a weapon that Satan cannot touch, a weapon that he cannot understand?

• For the Spirit speaks expressly to the Father, with words that cannot be uttered!
  o You need the Holy Ghost active and resident in your life so you can fight off temptations, and so you can be prepared for those battles that will come against you!
  o You need the Holy Ghost to encounter the intimacy between you and Christ!
  o You need it for that closer than close relationship.
• It’s time for your suddenly!
  o If you don’t know Christ, get ready.
  o You need to ask Christ into your life and ask Him to forgive you for failing Him.
  o If that’s you, come now!
  o Give Him your life!
  o If you need salvation, come now!

• If you haven’t received the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in Tongues, come now! Run! Get your suddenly!
  o If you want filled with the Holy Ghost and Fire, come now!

• If you haven’t been actively used of the Holy Ghost, or you haven’t spoken in tongues recently, or you feel your power leaking away, come and get re-filled today!
  o If you haven’t spoken in tongues TODAY, get up here!