

A vertical photograph of a sunset over a large body of water. The sky is a soft, hazy orange and yellow. In the distance, a city skyline is visible, with lights reflecting on the water's surface. The water in the foreground is dark blue with gentle ripples and scattered bright reflections of the sun.

52 Weeks
of Power

WEEK 02

Week 02



ACTS 1:8

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Do you remember what it was like show up for the first day at a new school? I remember the night before my first day of high school. So many thoughts ran through my head: *will I be able to make new friends? Will I fit in? Am I too different? Should I wear my new Lugz boots with the Ralph Lauren t-shirt?* Ultimately, the question I was asking myself is “*will I belong?*”

At Shoreline City, you and everyone in your world can belong. You can even **belong** before you believe. Belonging means you can be a part of what God is doing here. You can participate in our Sunday services, you can show up at Connect Groups, and you can begin to build relationships here.

Belonging is only the beginning. Jesus invites all of us not just to gather, but to grow. This is the second step: **become**. The same Spirit who drew you in wants to transform you from the inside out, filling you with boldness and hope. Growth is more than feeling comfortable in a new place—it's opening your heart and allowing God's power to work within you.

Yet we can't stop there. Our church's vision is to **raise up Christ-like leaders who make it on earth as it is in heaven**. That involves the third step: build. We're each called to help **build** God's kingdom—by serving, leading, and pouring into others. Jesus Himself commanded us to go and make disciples. Matthew 28:18–20 tells us, “Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go

and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

We don't want a version of Christianity that loves well, but has little passion for making disciples. We don't want to miss out on the full purpose God has for us by stopping at belonging when He's equipped us for so much more.

Consider where you are right now: Are you finding your place to **belong**? Are you ready to **become** all God's created you to be? Or is it time for you to **build**, by stepping into the leadership God placed inside of you to be and invest in others? Regardless of the phase you're in, God is ready to empower you. Like the early church in Acts 1:8, the Holy Spirit will give you the strength and courage to take your next step.

READ:

Mark 10:17-27

REFLECT:

Belong: Who do you know that might be feeling like they don't belong, and how can you intentionally reach out to help them feel welcomed and included?

Become: What areas of your life need growth? How can you partner with the Holy Spirit to move towards growth?

Build: Who in your life can you encourage or disciple, and what practical step can you take to invest in their spiritual growth?

PRAYER:

Father, thank You for inviting me into Your family. Help me recognize where I am on this path—whether it's belonging, becoming, or building—and give me the courage and faith to take the next step. Use my life to serve others and love like you more each day. In Jesus' name, Amen.