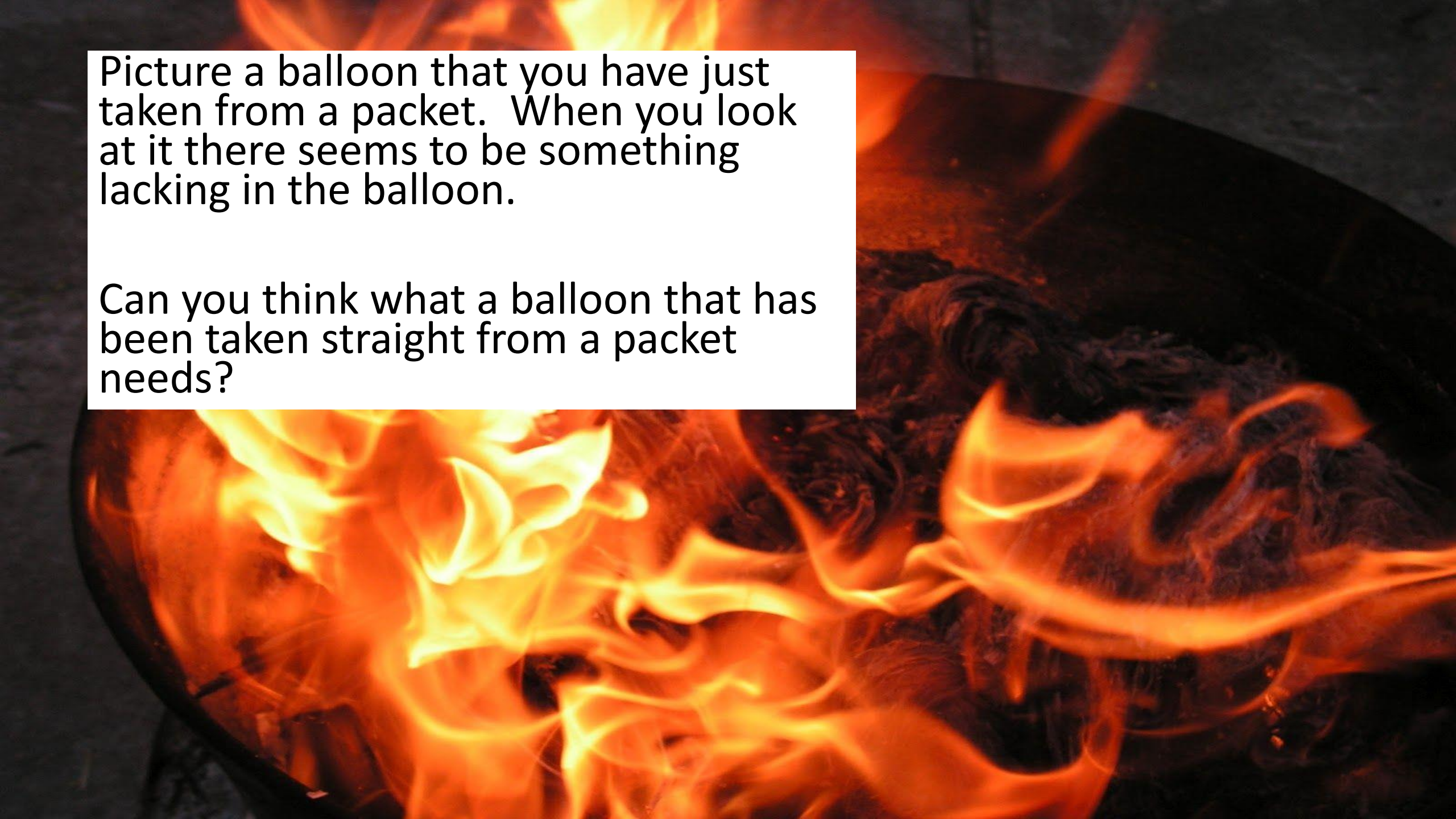




Filled with the Holy Spirit




Picture a balloon that you have just taken from a packet. When you look at it there seems to be something lacking in the balloon.

Can you think what a balloon that has been taken straight from a packet needs?




You're right.

It needs to be filled with air! Before a balloon can fulfill its purpose, someone must breathe some life into it.



I think a balloon can help us
learn something about the
church.




Yesterday was a very special day that we call Pentecost.

It was the day that God sent His Holy Spirit to breathe life into His church so the church would be all that God intended for it to be.



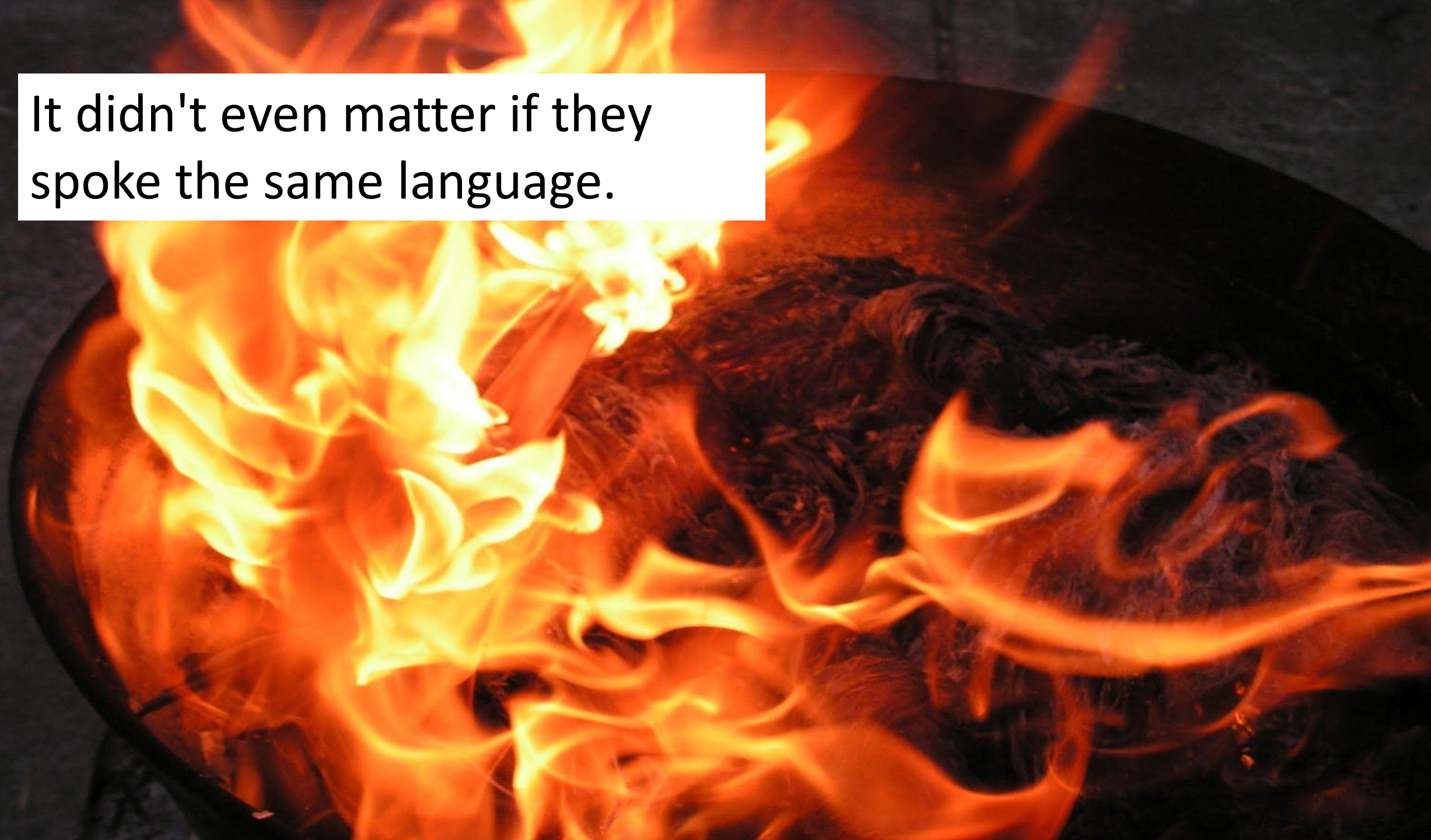
Before God sent His Holy Spirit, the church was lifeless--like this balloon. The church was not witnessing and telling people about Jesus.






After the Holy Spirit breathed life into the church, people began telling everyone they saw about Jesus.

It didn't even matter if they spoke the same language.

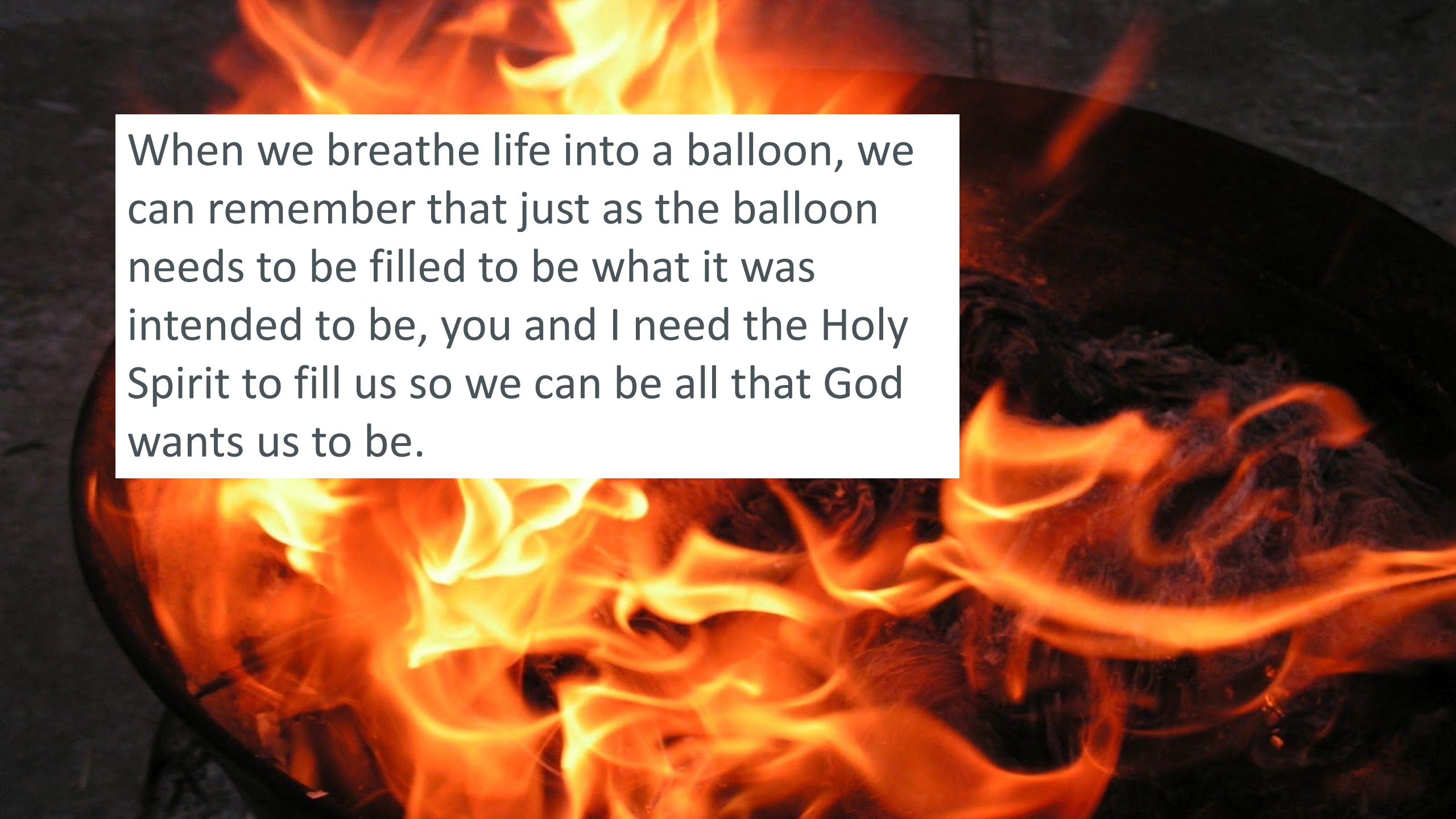


Everyone they told about Jesus understood what they were saying. Thousands of people were added to the church.

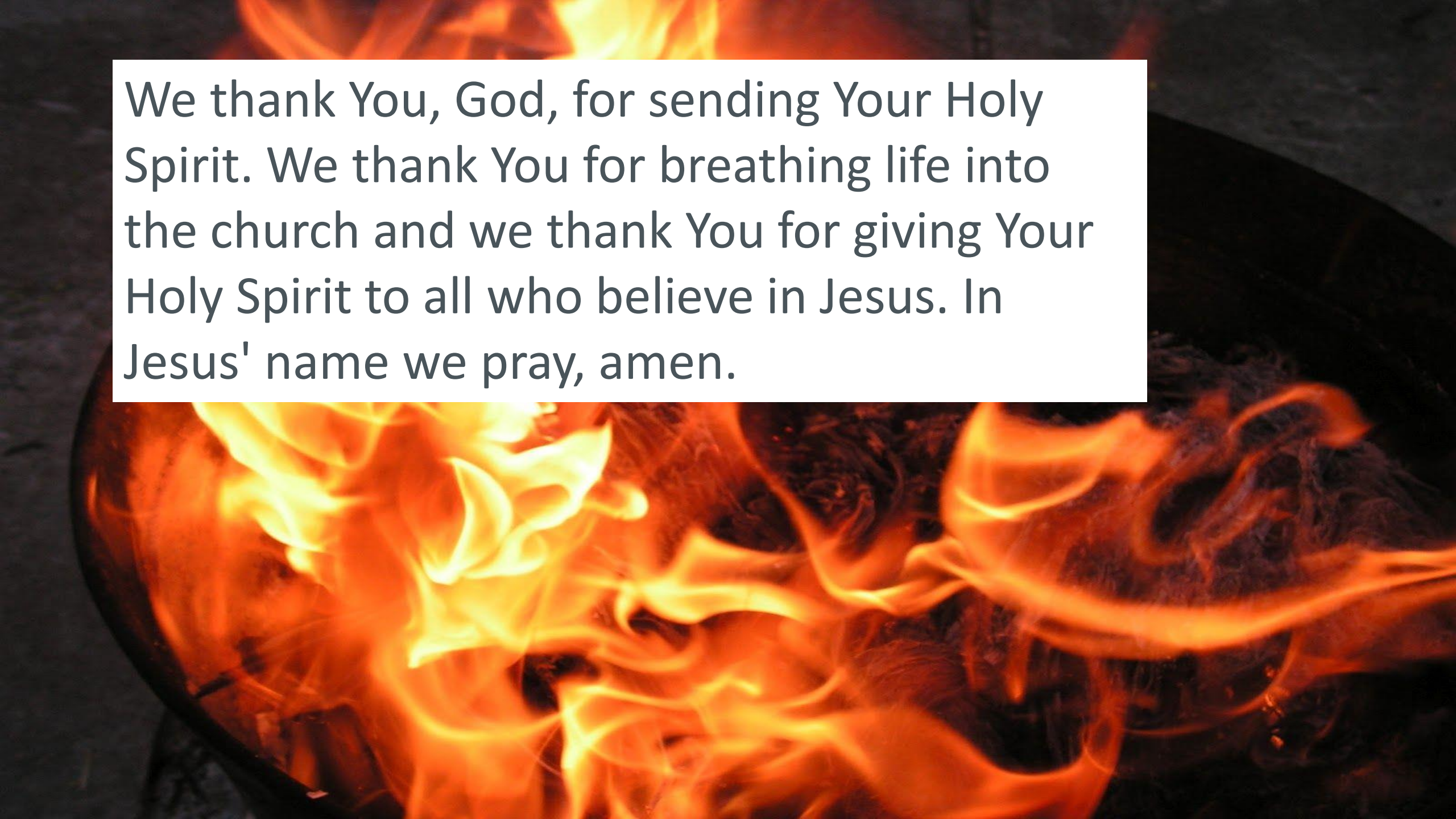




The church became alive and
was doing the things God had
commanded.



When we breathe life into a balloon, we can remember that just as the balloon needs to be filled to be what it was intended to be, you and I need the Holy Spirit to fill us so we can be all that God wants us to be.



We thank You, God, for sending Your Holy Spirit. We thank You for breathing life into the church and we thank You for giving Your Holy Spirit to all who believe in Jesus. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.