

These five stages can be traced in the experience of the men and women who passed through the life-changing miracle of Pentecost.

**Mutual Attraction.** The desire for God, planted and nurtured by Jesus, had become an overmastering obsession.

They were steadfastly in prayer for many days. Prayer brought a drawing near to God. By that nearness, sin was unsparingly exposed. They found themselves renouncing one cherished indulgence after another until **self-surrender** was complete.

Out of that self-surrender came increasing **trust**; a trust that ventured all, and claimed all. Faith closed the circuit and became the medium whereby God and man were fused into one. "They were all filled with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2: 4).

Trust then merged into a programme of continual **adjustment**. From henceforth the Holy Spirit was consulted first in all areas of life, and His counsel was obeyed. "It seemed good to the Holy Ghost and to us" (Acts 15: 28), was the phrase used to express the attitude of habitual deference to His wishes. Thus the will of man was married to the will of God, and out of this blending of the human and the Divine, there poured forth a torrent of winsome and irresistible goodness that changed the world!

**Conclusion** If we will follow the same pattern today, we will experience the same results. Says Ellen G. White: "There is no limit to the usefulness of the one who, putting self aside, makes room in his heart for the working of the Holy Spirit, and lives a life wholly consecrated to God" (Desire of Ages, p 250).