

Topic: DIVINE ENCOUNTERS: BECOMING A GLOBAL CENTER.

2. Series. Cultivating a culture of encounters.

Acts 2:1-5

2 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all [a]with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 Then there appeared to them [b]divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Settings:

1. **Location:** The disciples are gathered in Jerusalem, likely in the same upper room where they had observed the Last Supper with Jesus.

2. **Time:** It is the day of Pentecost, which was a Jewish festival occurring 50 days after Passover.

3. **Gathering of the Disciples:** The disciples, numbering about 120, are gathered together in one place, in obedience to Jesus' command to wait for the promise of the Holy Spirit. **Acts 1:4-8**

4 And being assembled together with *them*, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," *He said*, "you have heard from Me; 5 for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." 6 Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. 8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come

upon you; and you shall be [a]witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

1. How do we cultivate culture of encounters?

- **It's starting creating an environment conducive the move of God.**
- a. **Together in One accord:** (unity) **Acts 2:1 2** When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all [a]with one accord in one place.

Acts 2:46 So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart,

Psalm 133:1-6

Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is*
For brethren to dwell together in unity!

2 *It is* like the precious oil upon the head,
Running down on the beard,
The beard of Aaron,
Running down on the edge of his garments.

3 *It is* like the dew of Hermon,
Descending upon the mountains of Zion;
For there the LORD commanded the blessing—
Life forevermore.

- b. Prioritizing **prayer**, both and Individuals and Corporately. **Luke 6:12**
Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

Matthew 6:6

But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who *is* in the secret *place*; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you ^[a]openly.

, **Acts 12:5** Peter was therefore kept in prison, but ^[a]constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church

- **Prayer is our direct line of communication with the Divine. It allows us to cultivate a personal relationship with God, expressing ours thought, desire, fears and gratitude to Him.**

c. Engaging wholeheartedly in **Worship**, allowing our hearts to be open and receptive to His leading: John 4:23-24

23 But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. **24** God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

, **Psalms 95:6** Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.

d. Fostering deep, authentic **Fellowship** where we can encourage and uplifting one another in our faith journey: **Acts 2:42** And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ ^[a]doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

, 1 John 1:7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

Let's create a culture where encounters with the Divine are not just hoped for but expected.

Are you ready to cultivate a culture of encounters?

