

Introduction - Pentecost was not simply a historical event; it was the fulfillment of God’s promise to empower His people through the Holy Spirit. The coming of the Holy Spirit transformed fearful disciples into bold witnesses and launched the Church into its mission. The same Holy Spirit who empowered the early Church still works in believers today.

1. The Promise of Pentecost - Key Scriptures - Acts 1:4–8 Zechariah 4:6 Luke 24:49

Teaching Summary - Before Pentecost came the promise of Pentecost. Jesus instructed His disciples not to move ahead in their own strength but to wait for the promise of the Holy Spirit. Even after walking with Jesus and witnessing miracles, they still needed divine empowerment. The Holy Spirit was not given merely for emotional experiences but to empower believers for witness, ministry, and victorious Christian living. The same Spirit who empowered the early Church still empowers believers today.

Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think Jesus told the disciples to wait before beginning ministry? _____

Read: Acts 1:4–8

Application: Many believers try to serve God through human ability instead of depending on the Holy Spirit. Discuss practical ways we can learn to depend more on God’s strength than our own.

2. What does it mean to live by the Spirit instead of relying on human strength? _____

Read: Zechariah 4:6

Application: Identify an area in your life where you have been relying more on effort, personality, or experience than on prayer and the Holy Spirit’s guidance.

3. How did the Holy Spirit transform Peter’s life and ministry? _____

Read: Acts 2:14–41

Application: The same Holy Spirit who gave Peter boldness is available today. Ask God to help you become bolder in sharing your faith.

2. The Presence of Pentecost - Key Scriptures Acts 2:1–4 Ezekiel 37:1–10 Eph 4:3 Hebrews 12:29

Teaching Summary: The Holy Spirit came when the believers were united in one place and one accord. The wind symbolized the breath and life of God, while the fire symbolized purification, passion, holiness, and God’s presence. Pentecost reminds us that the Holy Spirit not only empowers believers outwardly but also

transforms believers inwardly. The Spirit produces unity, holiness, passion, and spiritual life within the Church.

Discussion Questions

1. Why is unity important for a healthy and Spirit-filled church? _____

Read: Acts 2:1 and Ephesians 4:3

Application: Discuss ways believers can protect unity within the church and avoid attitudes that create division.

2. What do the symbols of wind and fire teach us about the Holy Spirit? _____

Read: Acts 2:2–3 and Ezekiel 37:1–10

Application: Are there areas in your spiritual life that feel dry, discouraged, or spiritually weak? Pray for the Holy Spirit to breathe fresh life into those areas.

3. Why is inward transformation just as important as outward power? _____

Read: Galatians 5:22–23

Application: The fruit of the Spirit reveals God's work in our lives. Which fruit of the Spirit would you most like God to strengthen in your life right now?

3. The Proclamation of Pentecost - Key Scriptures - Acts 2:14–21, Romans 1:16, Matthew 5:14–16

Teaching Summary: The immediate result of Pentecost was bold proclamation. Peter stood and preached Jesus with courage and conviction. The Holy Spirit empowered ordinary believers to boldly share the Gospel. Pentecost was never intended to stop with an experience in the upper room. The Holy Spirit empowers believers to shine as lights in a dark world and proclaim Jesus with love, truth, and boldness.

Discussion Questions

1. Why do many believers struggle to openly share their faith today? _____

Read: Romans 1:16

Application: Discuss practical opportunities you may have this week to share Christ through words, kindness, encouragement, or testimony.

2. What does it mean to be a light in today's culture? _____

Read: Matthew 5:14–16

Application: How can believers shine brightly for Jesus in workplaces, schools, homes, and communities without becoming fearful or silent?

3. How does the Holy Spirit help believers overcome fear? _____

Read: Acts 4:31 and 2 Timothy 1:7

Application:

Share a time when God gave you courage in a difficult moment. Pray together for boldness and compassion in sharing Christ.

Three Responses to the Message

1. Wait on the Holy Spirit - Many people rush ahead without seeking God's direction or strength. Waiting on God through prayer, worship, and surrender prepares us for spiritual power and effectiveness. What practical steps can you take this week to spend more intentional time seeking God's presence?

2. Be Open to the Holy Spirit's Work - The Holy Spirit desires to transform every area of our lives. We must remain teachable, surrendered, and willing to allow God to convict and change us. Is there an area of your life where you have been resisting the Holy Spirit's leading?

3. Witness Through the Holy Spirit's Power - Pentecostal power was given so believers could boldly proclaim Jesus Christ. Every believer has a mission field — family, friends, workplace, school, or community. Who is one person you can intentionally pray for and reach out to this week with the love of Christ?