### Be Still...it's just the Beginning

November 30, 2025 Heartland Christian Center Pastor, Matt Willingham

Isaiah 40:31 "But those who wait on the Lord Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint."

- We are shaped in God's PRESENCE to carry it to a restless world.
- We are called to live in times of STILLNESS, but we are not called to live in IDLENESS.
- 1 Peter 5:6-7 "Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, 7 casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you."
- Empty <u>STILLNESS</u> = <u>STALENESS</u>

# 1. Presence Shapes the POSTURE

Acts 1:4-5 "And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

- Stillness MIRRORS Jesus.
- We become <u>PATIENT</u>, <u>KIND</u>, <u>UNHURRIED</u>—the opposite of culture.

#### 2. Presence Fuels the POWER

Acts 2:1-2 "When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting."

- The same Spirit who rested on Jesus rests on us in <u>STILLNESS</u>.

## 3. Presence MARKS the People

Acts 2:12-14 "And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine." But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them:"

- God's nearness = our IDENTITY.
- In a world of noise, stillness makes us RECOGNIZABLE.

#### 4. Presence <u>SENDS</u> the People

Acts 4:13 "Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John... they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus."

- Stillness isn't <u>ESCAPE</u>—it's <u>TRAINING CAMP</u>.
- Stillness isn't HIDING—it's SHINING

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