



May 24 – The Day the Fire Came - Pentecost

Are you willing to be amazed? Do you look with wonder to the world around you? How about mysteries? Do you like them? Too often what we think we want is certainty - but what if God wants to join us with a bit of power mixed with awe and wonder? Are we willing to see? To receive? Join us this weekend as we celebrate Pentecost - a day that celebrates the Holy Spirit showing up and stirring things up! Be sure to wear RED and come discover just what God might be up to!

Scripture:

Acts 2:1-13 On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. ²Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. ³Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. ⁴And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.

⁵At that time there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem. ⁶When they heard the loud noise, everyone came running, and they were bewildered to hear their own languages being spoken by the believers.

⁷They were completely amazed. "How can this be?" they exclaimed. "These people are all from Galilee, ⁸and yet we hear them speaking in our own native languages! ⁹Here we are—Parthians, Medes, Elamites, people from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, the province of Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, and the areas of Libya around Cyrene, visitors from Rome ¹¹(both Jews and converts to Judaism), Cretans, and Arabs. And we all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done!" ¹²They stood there amazed and perplexed. "What can this mean?" they asked each other. ¹³But others in the crowd ridiculed them, saying, "They're just drunk, that's all!"

1 Corinthians 12:1-11 Now, dear brothers and sisters, regarding your question about the special abilities the Spirit gives us. I don't want you to misunderstand this. ²You know that when you were still pagans, you were led astray and swept along in worshiping speechless idols. ³So I want you to know that no one speaking by the Spirit of God will curse Jesus, and no one can say Jesus is Lord, except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. ⁵There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. ⁶God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us.

⁷A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other. ⁸To one person the Spirit gives the ability to give wise advice; to another the same Spirit gives a message of special knowledge. ⁹The same Spirit gives great faith to another, and to someone else the one Spirit gives the gift of healing. ¹⁰He gives one person the power to perform miracles, and another the ability to prophesy. He gives someone else the ability to discern whether a message is from the Spirit of God or from another spirit. Still another person is given the ability to speak in unknown languages, while another is given the ability to interpret what is being said. ¹¹It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have.

Questions:

- How much do you know about the Holy Spirit? Which part of God are you most comfortable with? What makes you choose that part of God?
- From the very beginning of time, whenever the Spirit shows up - things change, grow, move, create. What might the Spirit be wanting to stir up, grow up, move, create in you? Does this make you nervous or excited?
- Can you embrace the mystery of God? Stand in awe and wonder of God? Can you follow a God who is bigger, mightier and just plain "more" than you can imagine? This week, allow yourself to be immersed in the awe and wonder, the tongues of fire amazement - and see where it takes you!

Reading for the Week:

Monday: Romans 8:9-15

Tuesday: Ezekiel 36:25-27

Wednesday: 1 Corinthians 2:6-12

Thursday: Isaiah 6:1-8

Friday: Joel 2:28-32