

LED BY THE SPIRIT

Acts 2:1-13



SYNOPSIS

This past Sunday, we celebrated Pentecost Sunday - the gift of the Holy Spirit to the followers of Jesus. Jesus had told his disciples to wait in the city until they had been clothed with power from on high before going to the ends of the earth with the gospel about the Kingdom of God. That's exactly what we see in the book of Acts - the continuation of the ministry of Jesus through the followers of Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit. They waited until the day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came upon them.

Why is Pentecost significant? This Jewish Feast (Feast of Weeks) was connected to the time when Moses went up Mt Sinai to receive the Torah - and it was a beloved gift, an instruction for the people of God, teaching them how to live as free people. In the same way, the Holy Spirit came during this Jewish Feast - similarly, a gift as an instruction for the people of God, teaching them how to live as free people in Jesus Christ (now freed from sin and death).

We see the powerful move of the Holy Spirit in Jerusalem as they waited and followed the instruction and leading of God that they otherwise would have missed out on - and that reminds us that the timing of God, the move of God, the obedience and attentiveness to what God is doing results in a bountiful harvest for the Kingdom of God.

As we celebrate Pentecost Sunday, we remember the gift of the Holy Spirit - reminding us that we can't do this Christian life on our own, nor do we have to. We are reminded that we need to be continually filled with the Holy Spirit, and that as we seek the fullness of the Holy Spirit, our desire is to be a substantial church that pleases God.



OUTLINE

1 JESUS, BAPTIZER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Jesus gave explicit instruction to the disciples to wait to be baptized with the Holy Spirit before commencing their ministry. He came not only to atone for our sins, but to gift us with the Holy Spirit who is not only essential for ministry, but for our own formation. The Holy Spirit is not optional, but necessary for us as followers of Jesus!

2 FEAST OF WEEKS

To understand Pentecost, we need to understand the Jewish Feasts - The Feast of Passover, the Feast of Firstfruits, and the Feast of Weeks. The Feast of Weeks was a celebration for the Jewish people around the giving of the Torah. They saw it as an endearing father giving instruction to his children. This instruction was so that they could learn how to live as free people (coming out of slavery in Egypt). On Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was given to the disciples - and it too represented an endearing father giving His living Spirit to His children, instructing them on how to live their life of freedom in Christ.

3 GOD'S TIMING, GOD'S HARVEST

Because they waited for the timing of God and the moving of God (though the temptation to move ahead of Him is always there), they were able to reap the bountiful harvest of God for the Kingdom of God!



kairos church



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1

Icebreaker: Do you think you are a patient or impatient person?

2

Share some of your experiences with the Holy Spirit - what are your perceptions of Him and where did it come from?

3

Was there ever a season of waiting on the Lord that you went through? What did that look like?

4

What do you look to as "instruction" for your life? Holy Spirit? Culture? Parents? Peers?

5

What are different ways the Holy Spirit interacts with us? How does the Holy Spirit interact with you personally?

6

Pray together and ask God for the filling of the Holy Spirit - so that we can be better lovers - lovers of God and lovers of people.



BIG IDEA

God gave us the Holy Spirit to lead us and instruct us in our new life of freedom we have in Christ - a life free from the grips of sin and death. The Holy Spirit has many roles in our life - let's be a church that desires to be continually filled with the Holy Spirit. As we are led by His timing, His resources, His movement, may we experience the abundant life that Jesus said we would be able to experience.