

Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read John 20:19-23 & Acts 2:1-21. What questions immediately come to mind? What do you hear God say to you as you read it a few times to yourself? Does your familiarity with either of these texts interfere with you hearing them in a new light? What do you find to be the most important in these readings? Why?
2. After His resurrection, Jesus spent forty days with His disciples; how do you think they felt about this time with Him? What would their conversations have been like? What else do you think he taught them? What questions do you think they asked?
3. Luke tells us in v. 3 that Jesus "proved to them in many ways" that he was alive. Why does Jesus do this? Why does he think it necessary to give many proofs? What kind of proofs do you think Jesus gave? What did the resurrection prove?
4. What is the disciples' question in v. 6? Why did they ask this question? Where did it come from? What do the disciples assume, take for granted, in their question?
5. How does Jesus answer their question? (v. 7) What does Jesus say next (v. 8)? How had Jesus prepared them for this task? How has he prepared us? What prevents us from being effective witnesses? Do we, like the disciples, have concerns or perspectives or priorities that restrict or distract us from effectively fulfilling our roles as witnesses?
6. What is the context of the Holy Spirit's coming? Who's there? What are they doing? What words, phrases, images, or descriptions about Pentecost raise questions for you, encourage you, or confuse you?
7. The Spirit's power doesn't always manifest itself in wild & sensational ways. Sometimes it's subtle or simple. When have you experienced evidence of the Spirit's power in your life? In what area(s) of your life would you like the Spirit to be more present, active & powerful? Why there? How do you believe that will occur?
8. Why do you think many Christians live as though they are devoid of the Spirit's power?
9. The Festival of Pentecost commemorated the giving of the Law on Mt Sinai as recorded in Exodus 19. Look quickly at Ex 19:14-20. What similarities do you notice to Acts 2? The Law was a sign of the original covenant to God's people. The Holy Spirit is the sign of the new covenant in Christ. Read Jeremiah 31:31-34 & Ezekiel 11:17-20. How is this promise fulfilled by the Spirit on Pentecost?
10. When Peter begins to explain what is happening, how does he begin? What question does he answer? How? What point is Peter making with by linking the Spirit being poured out here with Joel's promise? How does it answer the crowd's question?
11. What is Peter's final assurance to Jews & God-fearing Gentiles who might be confused by what is taking place? How is this an assurance for you as well?

Living Water Fellowship

THE DAY OF PENTECOST

5TH JUNE 2022

COME TO JESUS

PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION *So Good To Me (Zach Williams)*

WELCOME and PRAYER OF THE DAY:

SONG: *10,000 Reasons*

BIBLE READING: John 20:19-23

GROW IN HIS GRACE

FIRST CENTURY NEWS:

BIBLE READING: Acts 2:1-21 *VIDEO*

SONG: *Jesus Strong and Kind*

THE MESSAGE: *IN CHRIST'S HANDS: PROCLAIMING REALITY*

THE NICENE CREED:

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS:

THE COMMUNION:

L: Christ gave to the church the bread of heaven, his flesh & blood, for our forgiveness, life & salvation. Paul records that gracious gift with these words:

For I pass on to you what I received from the Lord himself. On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me." In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this to remember me as often as you drink it." For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again.

Lord Jesus have mercy on us according to your steadfast love. Forgive our sin so our lives reflect your grace and glory. Amen.

Because of God's great love for us, we have peace with God & access to God's grace all through Jesus Christ who, while we were still sinners, died to free us from the bondage of sin.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now & forever. Amen.

Worship Video during Communion: To The Table (Zach Williams)

GO IN HIS POWER

BLESSING:

**† _____, child of God, the Holy Spirit lives in YOU!
Amen.**

SONG:

Shout to the Lord

SHOW HIS LOVE

JOHN 20:19-23

¹⁹ That Sunday evening the disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Suddenly, Jesus was standing there among them! "Peace be with you," he said. ²⁰ As he spoke, he showed them the wounds in his hands and his side. They were filled with joy when they saw the Lord! ²¹ Again he said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you." ²² Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven. If you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

ACTS 2:1-13

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

At that time there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem. When they heard the loud noise, everyone came running, & they were bewildered to hear their own languages being spoken by the believers. They were completely amazed. "How can this be?" they exclaimed. "These people are all from Galilee, & yet we hear them speaking in our own native languages! Here we are: Parthians, Medes, Elamites, people from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, the province of Asia, Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, & the areas of Libya around Cyrene, visitors from Rome (both Jews & converts to Judaism), Cretans, & Arabs. We all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done!" They stood there amazed & perplexed. "What can this mean?" they asked each other. But others in the crowd ridiculed them, saying, "They're just drunk, that's all!"

Then Peter stepped forward with the eleven other apostles & shouted to the crowd, "Listen carefully, all of you, fellow Jews & residents of Jerusalem! Make no mistake about this. These people are not drunk, as some of you are assuming. Nine o'clock in the morning is much too early for that. No, what you see was predicted long ago by the prophet Joel:

'In the last days,' God says, 'I will pour out my Spirit upon all people.

Your sons & daughters will prophesy.

Your young men will see visions, & your old men will dream dreams.

In those days I will pour out my Spirit

even on my servants, men & women alike, & they will prophesy.

And I will cause wonders in the heavens

above & signs on the earth below: blood & fire & clouds of smoke.

The sun will become dark, & the moon will

turn blood red before that great & glorious day of the Lord arrives.

But everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

"People of Israel, listen! God publicly pointed out Jesus of Nazareth to you by doing powerful miracles, wonders, & signs through him, as you well know. He was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan & foreknowledge; & you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God released him from the horrors of death & raised him back to life, for death could not keep him in its grip.