

What experiences have you had that you would say is an encounter with the Holy Spirit? What do you believe is the purpose of the Holy Spirit in today's world? Meditate on these questions and write your reflections here.

Thursday, June 12

Review Acts 2:1-21 and read Romans 8:14-17. It is important to understand that the gift of the Holy Spirit wasn't just a gift to individuals but was given to people from many nations in the context of community. Paul's words would have us understand that the church is not just any community; the church is the family of God! We are God's children through adoption made possible by the wholeness and salvation through Jesus the Christ. How does it feel to be a child of God? How does it feel to part of the family of God? We are bound together through Jesus and we are sustained as a community by the work of Holy Spirit around and within us! Write your thoughts here praying for the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Friday, June 13

Read once again Acts 2:1-21. The actual arrival of the Holy Spirit on that first Pentecost 20 centuries ago is described in only four verses. The balance of this passage is about spreading of the Good News of Jesus the Christ. When people thought that the Apostles and followers of Jesus were drunk on wine, Peter delivered the first sermon (message) of the early church. Those who were gathered were filled with the Holy Spirit and empowered to be what God created us to be as the family of God, each of us gifted by that same Holy Spirit. What are your gifts? How are you functioning as a part of the family of God? Write your ideas here giving thanks to God our heavenly parent!

Message Notes June 8, 2025

*The Pentecost Promise - No Room for Doom and Gloom**

- I. These are _____, uncertain and even _____ times.
 - A. In my _____, in my study of God's Word, in my time with our staff as we pray for our church – for you – I fight slipping into _____.
 - 1. I look for ways to _____ with the doom and gloom.
 - 2. One coping mechanism that is mentioned in a *Psychology Today* is _____ Spending.
 - B. According to *Psychology Today*, doom spending is when people shop to _____ - _____.
- II. When we read the truly marvelous story of Pentecost, we should know that it was a _____, uncertain and potentially _____ time for the followers of Jesus.
 - A. God knew that the apostles were feeling gloom and doom, so God sent the Holy Spirit in a burst of _____.
 - 1. Suddenly, a new _____ was being created.
 - 2. The future was no longer _____. It was _____. Full of purpose and _____.
 - B. Our Christian _____ contains a powerful treatment for _____ and _____.
 - 1. The _____ is God's antidote to gloom and doom and the fact is, the Holy Spirit has _____ been present in human history and actually from the _____ of creation.
 - 2. God's antidote to sadness and stress continues to be given to us _____.
 - C. We do not have to "fall back into _____," says Paul, because God has given us "a spirit of _____."

*Romans 8:14-17 and Acts 2:1-21

1. Adoption means that we have been _____ by God, hand-picked for _____, and made part of God's _____ for all eternity.
2. In fact, it is important to recognize that the gift of the Holy Spirit isn't given to _____; the gift of the Holy Spirit is poured out upon a _____ of believers.
3. There may be _____ along the way, but Paul assures us that if we suffer with Jesus, then we will "also be _____ with him."

III. The power of Pentecost is all about the _____ of God.

- A. That arrival of God's Spirit is really the _____ of the Spirit's presence all along.
1. It's meant to be a _____ experience in all of our lives not just _____ but throughout our faith journey.
 2. Call them "_____ Moments" or "_____ Wind" or "A _____ Aha."
 3. We are to know that we are a people _____ by God's _____.
- B. Clearly, this is an _____ power — a gift Christ-followers are offered and gratefully receive.
1. A state of Gloom and Dooms is no place for one who is a _____ of Jesus the Christ.
 2. When we lean into and live with the power of God, then there is _____ for gloom and doom

Daily Devotional Guide

The following is a daily devotional and study guide meant to enhance your understanding of the message and grow as a Christian.

It is offered for your personal reflection or to share with others.

Monday, June 9

The very first sentence of the message declares that we live in scary, uncertain and even dangerous times. Pastor Jack said that

is a statement of truth. Do you agree? How would you characterize the world in which we live? What concerns do you have on a daily basis? What fears arise in your experience? Contemplate the idea of living in a scary, uncertain and even dangerous world and write your reflections here.

Tuesday, June 10

Considering the statement yesterday about the state of our world being scary, uncertain and even dangerous, how do you cope with the stress and despair of this belief? One method of coping that is not particularly helpful or healthy is "Doom Spending." Have you heard of Doom Spending before this past Sunday's Message? It may be an intuitive concept that makes sense from a psychological perspective. Have you ever made a purchase to make yourself happier or more content? What are some coping mechanisms that you have utilized or even heard of that you believe to be effective? How would you determine which methods are healthy and which are potential destructive? Contemplate these questions and write your ideas here.

Wednesday, June 11

Read Acts 2:1-21. Pentecost is described as the birthday of the church but it was really a Jewish Feast and Celebration that Jews in Jesus' time would have made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. That's why "there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem." (Verse 5). What an opportunity for the Spirit of God to make an impact upon the world! While we celebrate Pentecost that happened 2000 plus years ago, we are recipients of God's Spirit each and every day of our lives. We live in the age of the Spirit within Christ's church but the fact is the Spirit of God has always been present since the creation of the universe. What difference do you believe the Holy Spirit make in our lives today?