

Theme: The Spirit of Truth

Pentecost (May 20th, 2018)

Meditation Thoughts: 1.) Truth is a torch that shines through the fog without dispelling it.- Helvetius
2.) Beware of a half- truth: you may have gotten hold of the wrong half.

Meditation Music

Pentecost Focus Moment – Tongues of Fire

Hymn # 46 – *Holy Spirit, Come With Power*

Welcome

Good News and Prayer Requests

Call To Worship – Doctrine & Covenants 162: 2e – 3a

*Hymn # 69 – *We Limit Not The Truth of God*

*Prayer

*Response

Story Ministry – Love, Julie

Ministry of Music (**Hymn # 632 – Christ's Word To Us**; sung by at least a duet or more)

Morning Message

Hymn # 209 – *Lord Lead Me By Your Spirit*

Offertory Scripture – Doctrine & Covenants 162: 7c

Offertory Prayer

Receiving of Our Tithes & Offerings

*Hymn # 362 – *Prophetic Church The Future Waits*

*Prayer

*Response

*Postlude

Pentecost Focus Moment

(for May 20th, 2018)

We waited. Sometimes we wondered what we were waiting for. But Jesus had told us to stay in Jerusalem and wait, so that's what we did.

When Jesus died, we crashed into the pit of despair. After three years of following Him and listening to Him teach, we were on our own. It seemed like it had all been for nothing.

That was Friday. On Sunday, we found out He was alive again! We were so excited, we could hardly keep our feet on the ground. But how long would He be with us? Jesus showed himself to a lot of people in the weeks after His resurrection. Then, 40 days after He rose from the grave, we stood and watched Him rise into the sky and disappear from sight.

But before He left, He told us to wait. "Wait for the gift my Father promised," He said. "You'll be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

So we waited for another ten days. The feast of Pentecost came, 50 days after the Passover time when Jesus had been killed. Jerusalem was full of people again. Jews lived all over the Roman world, but Pentecost was one of those times when Jerusalem was crowded. Pentecost was the end of the spring grain harvest, and it was a time to celebrate and be thankful. Anyone who could come to the festival made the trip. Jews came to Jerusalem from faraway empires, hundreds of miles away. Rome was over a thousand miles away, but people came from there. If you walk through the market streets at Pentecost, you hear dozens of different languages.

Our group of believers had grown every day since Jesus was raised from the dead. On the day of Pentecost, 120 of us gathered . . . and waited. Jesus had promised the Holy Spirit. We didn't know when or how the Spirit would come, but we wanted to be ready.

Suddenly the house shook with a gail-force wind. No, it was even worse than that. This was no summer breeze, no sping fluttering of leaves, no winter bluster. It was a wind like we'd never seen before or since. It blew through the house powerfully, and filled every nook and cranny of the place.

The next moment, flames burst out, but nothing burned. We saw tongues of fire in the air. They settled on each of us. And we were filled with the Holy Spirit. This is what Jesus had promised! This is what we had spent ten days waiting for.

Suddenly everyone started talking. But if you tried to understand us, you might have had trouble. We were talking in languages that we didn't even know! We had never studied these languages, never practiced them, but now we couldn't stop speaking.

The wind and fire and our speaking made such a ruckus that people came running from all over Jerusalem. These were the people who had come from far away for the feast. Imagine their surprise when they heard us talking – and could understand us.

“Aren't all these men Galileans?” they asked. “How is it that we hear them talking about God in our own languages?”

Peter got up to explain. He told everyone that what was happening was exactly what the prophet Joel had said would happen when God poured out His Spirit on the earth. It was right there in the Scriptures the whole time. And now it came true.

More than 3,000 people believed in Jesus that day. After that, we met together for meals and to worship God. God's Spirit made us bold to tell our friends and family and even strangers about Jesus. And every day, God brought more people to our group.

Jesus told us to wait, and we waited ten days . . . and nothing has been the same since.