

“God’s Empowering Presence”

Rev. Mike King, Associate Pastor

Pentecost Sunday

May 27, 2012

- Why talk about the Holy Spirit?

Because we cannot _____
Jesus in this world without the Holy Spirit.

- A three-word definition of the Holy Spirit:

- One half of that definition—God’s presence:

God’s original plan was that His people would live
in _____.

When humanity rebelled against God they lost access to His presence because of their sin. But God didn’t want it to stay that way, so His presence returned to them temporarily in the tabernacle and temple. After the resurrection of Jesus it then returned to them in a permanent and more profound way in the person of the Holy Spirit.

(See Exodus 40.34-35, Ezekiel 10.18, Ezekiel 36.26-27, 1 Corinthians 6.19, Ephesians 2.20)

- The other half of that definition—God’s power:

God’s presence is in us in order to _____
_____ the life He created us to live.
(Ephesians 3.16-21)

- The Spirit empowers us to:

1. _____
God created us to be. (Romans 15.13, Galatians 5)

Jesus’ disciples are empowered by the Spirit to follow Him, to live out His commands, and to become who we were created to be.

2. _____ God is calling us to do.
(Acts 1.8, 2 Timothy 1.6-8)

Jesus’ disciples can do the work He calls us to do with confidence, knowing that His power will bring about the results!

- What concrete steps do you need to take to respond to what you’ve heard today?

Talk it over...with your friends, family, or Growth Group.

Talking through the ideas presented in Sunday's message helps us apply God's word to our individual lives. These questions are designed to help you put His words into action in your life this week.

- Why do you think God had you here today? What practical next steps do you need to take as a result of what you experienced? Is there someone you need to talk with? A resource you need to get? A commitment you need to share with someone?

Some next steps: Here are some things you can do this week to dig deeper:

- Read through the stories of the early church recorded in Acts chapters 3, 4, and 5. What did the Holy Spirit do in and through the lives of those people?
- The term “God’s Empowering Presence” comes from a book written by New Testament professor Gordon Fee. If you’re interested in reading more by him on this topic check out his book Paul, the Spirit, and the People of God. It’s great.
- Spend some time this week exploring the following passages on your own. As you read them ask yourself the following questions: What does this passage say about the Holy Spirit? About how He empowers me to live for Christ? Do I experience that in my life? If not, what do I need to do?
- Romans 8.9-13
- Galatians 5.18-25
- Romans 8.26-27
- Acts 1.8
- Colossians 1.28-29
- Titus 3.5
- 1 Corinthians 12.4-11

