

Discussion Guide

Pentecost Sunday

May 28, 2023

Big Idea



The Church is a movement towards the Kingdom of God, born on the Day of Pentecost, led by the Holy Spirit.



Icebreaker

Are you a water person or not, overall & why? Any interesting stories of the water to share?



Discussion Questions

1. Read Acts 2:1-13 (have fun with the names!). Why were all the Jews from every nation in Jerusalem? What was ingenious about God's plan to have the Holy Spirit fall on the disciples at that time? What are some parallels to the people coming together here, in the Acts scene, and to the people coming together today, at church weekly? Is that encouraging to you & why? What did the people at the time of this Acts scene bring & why? Do we do anything similar today when we gather? Why is this still an important practice today?
2. Read Acts 2:14-37. Was Peter such a good speaker and so well prepared that it resulted in him sharing such profound words that cut to the people's hearts, or was something (or someone) else at work here? If so, who and how? Share an example of when you have experienced what seems to have been the Holy Spirit either just taking over, or leading you, in ways that you never would have gone on your own? How did that feel and what was the result? If one has never experienced this, why may that be and what could be done to allow the Holy Spirit the opportunity to act in their life?
3. Re-read Acts 2:37. The term "*cut to the heart*" refers to the listeners being convicted, which is one of the Holy Spirit's roles. Would you agree that most consider *conviction* to be a negative term and if so, why? How can, and in fact is, conviction by the Holy Spirit not a negative thing? What must you do to embrace conviction by the Holy Spirit as a positive thing in your own life?
4. The Holy Spirit calls us to action! Read Acts 2:38. What three actions does Peter, still under the influence of the Holy Spirit, communicate in response to the people's inquiry of "*now what?*"? Talk together about each of these three actions separately answering the following: What does _____ mean? What does _____ look like? What does _____ symbolize or communicate (if anything)? Why is _____ important? Why is _____ good ultimately for me and others?
5. Our Mission at Revive Wesleyan is: Pursue the Father, Proclaim Jesus, and Participate with Holy Spirit. With which particular one of these three does 1) *Repent*, 2) *Be Baptized*, and 3) *Receive the Holy Spirit* best align with and why? If that is a powerful realization to you? If so, why?



Concluding Question

We have some choices, really, when it comes to Participating with the Holy Spirit (the flowing river analogy). We can stand on the shore never getting into the water (the flowing Holy Spirit). Or we can get in the water and try and move against the current. Or we can get in the water but stand still. Or we can get in the water and flow along with, (but following, not moving ahead) of the Holy Spirit. Which have you been doing overall (maybe in some areas we have been flowing, others not)? What will you do this week to flow with the Holy Spirit more?



Application

1. What do you think the Holy Spirit may be saying to you through this sermon and our discussion?
2. What is something God wants you to do now?
3. Is there a way we can help each other apply what God is showing us?



Prayer Thanks for those who served our country to the point of death. Heart Check commitments.

