

The Church on the Move: Earth, Wind and Fire

Acts 2:1-13 || Pastor Joseph Kim || 5 June 2022

*To CARE for one another in truth and in love,
To GROW together as followers of Jesus,
To SERVE those God has placed in our path.
– CG Mission Statement*

Icebreaker: What song could you listen to on repeat, and it would never get old?

Worship: [Psalm 27:1-6](#) (*Remain a few moments in worship with this passage. What is God's invitation?*)

Sermon Summary for [Acts 2:1-13](#) (*Read aloud before reading the sermon summary.*)

Christ roamed the earth for forty days after His resurrection – talking to and caring for and eating with His friends, family and disciples – wholly alive and very much a part of this world. Then comes the Ascension, where Jesus ascended to Heaven in the presence of His disciples. Having received Christ's blessing, they worshiped Him and returned to joyfully wait in Jerusalem as they'd been told to. But: wait for what? Ten days later...

“When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:1-4).

One of the greatest takeaways from this passage is to simply marvel at the wonder and beauty of this staggering moment. This isn't a time to seek out applications for “how to be a good Christian;” it's most applicable when we can simply ask ourselves, “*Do you remember?*”

- > **Do we remember** this moment of continued proof of Christ's work in the world? Jesus passed the torch to us; it's the reason we meet every Sunday – because we remember that the Spirit came, that It is within us, working through us.
- > **Do we remember** that this moment also happened with Jesus where the Holy Spirit came upon Him as God said, “*You are my beloved Son; with You I am well pleased*” ([Luke 3:22](#))? These moments mark the beginning of both these ministries – first Jesus's and then the disciples (and ours) in Acts 2.
- > **Do we remember** our moment with the Holy Spirit – the first time we realized that God is also saying to us “*You are my beloved*”? This marks the beginning of our personal journey with the Lord.

The second great takeaway from this passage is found in Acts 2:4, which says, “*They were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.*” Other translations use the phrase “as the Spirit **enabled** them.” When the Holy Spirit comes down, It enables us to do things we could never do before – that we could never do apart from God.

- > **Do we remember** what the Holy Spirit enabled us to do the first time we entered into faith? Do we remember how everything changed for us?

Regardless of the outcome, we are empowered by God to do His will and spread His message and lovingkindness and mercy to the world. We are enabled because the Holy Spirit is speaking truth into our lives. And it frees us to do the work of God that we were created to do. When we do the things that the Spirit enables us to do, the reaction is “amazement and astonishment” ([2:7-8](#)). And all of these acts – across all followers of Christ throughout time,

empowered by the Holy Spirit – work to a greater good, toward fulfilling God’s great redeeming mission for Creation. We are a part of this. So may we remember our calling and our Lord, and may we remember this moment of Pentecost that allows us to have God with us and in us. And may that enliven us to go forth as our Savior did to love and care for the world.

Discussion Questions *(You will not be able to discuss all the questions. Pick the ones you like. Some are personal perspective and application questions for life-transforming discussions.)*

Do You Remember Pentecost and the Coming of the Holy Spirit?

- Was there a moment in your life where the power of the Holy Spirit came upon you?
 - Was this like Pentecost for you or would you describe it another way?
- For the disciples and early followers of The Way (the term ‘Christian’ was not coined yet), this operated as an anchor moment, a moment they look back on and remember the power of the Spirit.
 - How do you relate to this, if at all? Was your experience similar? Is it foreign? Something else?

Do You Remember the Calling of the Holy Spirit?

- Read [Luke 3:1-22](#) and recap Christ’s Baptism.
 - This moment represents the beginning of Jesus’s ministry. Do you have a moment that marks the beginning of your ministry?
 - What do you see your personal ministry being? How has the Spirit called you?
- Before one can be called, one must be claimed, understand that claiming and respond to that calling. This is the process of baptism. Have you been baptized? What was that experience like?
 - Do you consider that a starting point in your own ministry? Was there a different time or moment that would be more accurately called the starting point in your ministry?

Do you Remember the First Time the Holy Spirit “Enabled” You in Mission?

- Joe shared the story about his father – where he asked him to go to church with him – as an example when the Spirit enabled him to do something he could not do otherwise.
 - When and in what way(s) has the Spirit enabled you to do something you could not do?
- What does it look like for the Spirit to lead us in the way, constantly on a day-to-day basis?

Prayer

Practice Lectio Divina (sacred reading) by reading [Psalm 27:1-6](#) together slowly and attentively. Enter into prayer through a single word or phrase from the passage.

For this week’s Prayer Guide for personal or group use, click [HERE](#).

Engage & Experience: Prayer & Gratitude

As we start a new sermon series in the Book of Acts titled [The Church on the Move](#), read through [the entire book of Acts](#) this month. Acts records the history of the church’s first three decades but is written in a fast paced manner. In the motif of our Prayer focus for 2022: as you read, mark or jot down whenever you see the church praying together. What did you learn about prayer? The Church? God? How can you apply this to your life?