

SERMON NOTES

Jesus Ascends!

Acts 2:1-4

MAIN IDEA

Christians, we walk in the power and the presence of the Holy Spirit

The Church Matters. It is in this gathering that Pentecost took place.

We must uphold the beauty of the Church - as it's Christ's Bride!

Yes, people have been hurt by the people of the church, and we must love and right wrongs. But no one has come to know Christ through a Christian speaking negatively about Christ's Bride.

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all in one place.

Gathering together is one of the Christian's greatest duties! Let us check our motives when we choose not to gather on a Sunday morning, as this is where the Spirit moves mightily amongst the Bride. God is calling his Church to big things - will you join in?

We Walk in the Power...

Do we depend on the Holy Spirit so much that we feel it in our souls when we are not walking in step with him? When the Holy Spirit arrived, it was a VIOLENT rushing wind. This was not just noticeable, all eyes were on the Power of the Spirit of God.

And the Presence of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is not meant to live NEXT to you like a nice neighbor, he is meant to live IN and AMONG you, dwelling in your lives!

What about Baptism of/in the Holy Spirit?

Around Pentecost, there are many verbs used to describe the descent of the Holy Spirit, including "pour out", "come upon", "descend", and "baptize" (submerge). Does this mean that we need a second baptism? While some churches do believe that there is a second baptism which many think results in the gift of speaking in tongues, Peace Church's stance is no, there is no second baptism. We believe that your covenantal baptism happens in the name of each member of the trinity, including the Holy Spirit, and Paul makes clear that there is only one baptism (Ephesians 4:4-6). If you know Christ, you have had the Holy Spirit working in you since the day of your conversion. So let us pray for the Spirit to give us a renewed filling of his presence as we face certain ministries and challenges in our lives. May our hearts be marked by the fruits of the Spirit and the power of the Spirit that is available to us because we have been indwelt by him!

Additional questions:

1. When was the last time you sat next to a campfire or a bonfire?
2. How are you using the gift that the Holy Spirit has given you to build up the church?
3. What role does the Holy Spirit have in raising up your kids/grandkids, encouraging your spouse, and strengthening your friendships?
4. What are your thoughts on "Baptism of the Holy Spirit"? Did Pastor Ryan's explanation clear up any confusion or bring up more questions for you?