



new life fellowship

**Sermon Title: The Holy Spirit: Pentecost Sunday**

**Speaker: Richard Villodas, Lead Pastor**

**Scripture: Acts 2:1-18**

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues<sup>[a]</sup> as the Spirit enabled them.

<sup>5</sup> Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. <sup>6</sup> When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. <sup>7</sup> Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans?" <sup>8</sup> Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? <sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome <sup>11</sup> (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" <sup>12</sup> Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

<sup>13</sup> Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

<sup>14</sup> Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. <sup>15</sup> These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! <sup>16</sup> No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup> "In the last days, God says,

I will pour out my Spirit on all people.  
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,  
your young men will see visions,  
your old men will dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup> Even on my servants, both men and women,

I will pour out my Spirit in those days,  
and they will prophesy.

(NIV)

### **Sermon Outline:**

Pentecost Sunday reminds us that the church was birthed into existence today. It is an opportunity for us to remember why we are here and what can happen as we open ourselves up to the person and ministry of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is given on the Day of Pentecost.

God wants to use us individually, as well as collectively, so that we can bear witness to something of the power of God in our world. The Holy Spirit has been poured out on all flesh and is available for anyone who wants it.

Is your life being marked by the Holy Spirit? Are you being ignited by the presence and the power of the Holy Spirit?

The disciples are waiting for the gift of the Holy Spirit that was promised by Jesus. There were times when Jesus was present with them and other times when he was absent from them, which is very confusing for the disciples. Jesus ascends to heaven and sends the Holy Spirit to be with

**Jesus' absence paved the way for another dimension of his presence.**

Peter is the first one to stand up and talk about the Holy Spirit. God has a way of taking people who have failed and mess up and using them for His glory.

**The Holy Spirit is not a reward for those who have good behavior and unwavering faith. The Holy Spirit is a gift to those who turn to Jesus and wait on him.**

The Spirit falls upon the church, and they start speaking in different languages. The Spirit gives them the ability to speak and understand one another.

What would it look like if the world were amazed and perplexed at the church because we had our act together? What would it look like if we possessed a type of peace, joy, generosity and love that was so radically different from the rest of the world, that those looking at the church were amazed and perplexed?

It is easy to think that God's anointing is only for certain people and maybe not for yourself. The anointing of Jesus Christ wants to fall on all of us, not just a select few. If you belong to Jesus Christ, his anointing has been poured out on you.

Sons and Daughters  
Young Men and Old Men  
Servants

**Prophecy: To bring forth God's life and word for the unique time and place you find yourself in.**

The Spirit is constantly being poured, but we don't want to get wet. We don't want to get wet because this often means we need to change, looking at areas of sin and rebellion in our life that God wants us to pay attention to. We end up becoming distracted and missing out on the ways the Holy Spirit wants to pour out on us because we dodge the pouring of the Spirit.

The gospel is more than being forgiven and going to heaven when you die. It is because of the Holy Spirit that we get a sneak preview of what is to come when Jesus Christ fully and finally reigns.

We are to open ourselves up to light the Holy Spirit, so that we can live lives marked by the Holy Spirit.

**Sermon Summary:**

This Sunday, Pastor Richard Villodas, Lead Pastor, continues our sermon series on the on the Holy Spirit. Today Pastor Rich explores what the coming of the Holy Spirit meant for the first century as well as what it means for us today in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Sermon Questions:**

1. Do you feel an invitation from Christ in today's scripture passage? What words resonate with you? Why?
2. When it comes to the Holy Spirit, do you feel as though your life is being sparked by the Holy Spirit? Do you feel as though you are being ignited by the power and presence of the Holy Spirit? If so, where do you see this taking place? Or are you running away from the Holy Spirit, not wanting to face your sin or rebellion that God needs you to look at? Why are you running away from the Holy Spirit? Be honest about your answers to these questions, taking time to journal your responses.
3. How do you feel when you hear that the Holy Spirit is not a reward for those who have good behavior and unwavering faith, but instead is a gift to those who turn to Jesus and wait on him? Does hearing our receiving the Spirit is not contingent on our own merit help you move toward Jesus, asking that he pour out his Holy Spirit on you? Make time this week to sit with God, asking for forgiveness where you may need it.
4. What would it mean for God to send you to be a prophetic presence to those around you? Maybe in your workplace, your neighborhood, with your friends, or with your family? Where might God be sending you to reach out to those who are suffering and struggling, offering words of light and love? Spend time with God this week, thanking him for sending you to those around you, or asking for his wisdom and guidance on where he is sending you.