

Sermon Notes – Sunday 28th October
‘Born to burn’ – the coming of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the source of power available to every believer, to enable us to do God’s will and be what God wants us to be. Through the Holy Spirit we can have the power and character of Jesus. He is a person and he speaks to us personally. Every believer should know the reality and power of the Holy Spirit bringing life right into the centre of their being and strength into their lives (John 7:38,39). What has been your experience of the Holy Spirit?

Read Acts 1:1-8. The power of the Holy Spirit was given to enable the disciples to witness to Jesus.

- Describe an occasion when you have been able to witness to someone?
- In what ways does the Holy Spirit help us to live our lives at a practical level as God intends us to?

Read Acts 2:1-21. Why is the reference to ‘fire’ (‘tongues of fire’) so significant in respect to the coming of the Spirit?

- Recall a time when you were on fire for God? How did it influence you and your relationships?

Paul urges the Thessalonian church not to ‘put out the Spirit’s fire’(1 Thess 5:19).

- How might the stuff of life (Disappointments, Distractions and Indulgences) have the effect of damping down the fire we once knew burned in our hearts for God?

The transformation in the lives of those disciples was instant:

New Courage – Peter addressing the crowd when he had only recently denied knowing Jesus (Acts 2:14).

New Believers – the consequence of Peter’s preaching (v41)

New Community – (Acts 2:42-47)

- How does their life together challenge us today?

New Power – Peter and John at the gate called Beautiful (Acts 3).

But it was also a call to suffering as a great persecution came upon the church (Acts 8:1, 9:1).

- How do you feel about sharing in the sufferings of Christ as many Christians around the world do today?
- What areas of your life do you need to yield to the Holy Spirit in order to be a more effective disciple of Jesus?
- What do you need to do to fan into flame the gift of God within you’ (2 Tim 1:6)

Remember: ‘Proximity to Divinity makes you Incendiary!’

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