

Sermon Notes – Pentecost Sunday Life in the Spirit - Power

'You will receive **power** when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth'
Acts 1:8

There are 4 important reasons why we all need **the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives:**

- 1. Power to love.** The work of the Holy Spirit is to change us, to mould and shape us, to deal with our 'rough edges' and make us more like Jesus by growing his fruit within our lives (Galatians 5:22).
 - Can you identify which of these fruit have grown in your own life in recent years and which ones need particular attention?
- 2. Power to be pure.** 'Those who live in accordance with the Spirit, have their minds set on what the Spirit desires' (Romans 8:5-10). Share stories from every day life of how your mind and thoughts are directed by the Spirit.
- 3. Power to bring unity.** The chaos and disunity of Babel (Genesis 11:1-9) was reversed by the comprehension of Pentecost (Acts 2:11). In St John's Gospel we read of Jesus's prayer for future generations of believers 'that they may be one'(John 17:20-24).
 - How has the Holy Spirit helped you to find unity and reconciliation in relationships?
- 4. Power to share.** The word used for power here (Acts 1:8) is 'dunamis' which is where we get our word 'dynamite'. God wants us to be filled with the same power so we can witness to the life of Jesus ('You will be my witnesses'). This means not only to be able to *speak* about Jesus but also to *become* like Jesus to other people so that it will be like Jesus reaching out and touching them through us (Jn14:12).
 - What opportunities do you have to share Jesus or be Jesus to others and so witness to his love?
 - The essence of the Spirit filled life is not how much of the Spirit do I have, because I have all of Him, but how much does he have of me?
 - What areas in your life do you need to yield to the Holy Spirit in order to become a more effective disciple of Jesus?

Pray for one another to be filled or re-filled with the Holy Spirit. Don't put it off. Ask and receive from your heavenly Father (Luke 11:13).

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