Pentecost Pastors Dave Patterson and Myles Weiss 5.31.2020

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is not to get through the questions, but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

The Great Commission is still the number one agenda on God's heart. None of us can accomplish this without the empowering work of the Holy Spirit.

[Acts 1:1-12, NLT]

¹ In my first book I told you, Theophilus, about everything Jesus began to do and teach ² until the day he was taken up to heaven after giving his chosen apostles further instructions through the Holy Spirit. ³ During the forty days after he suffered and died, he appeared to the apostles from time to time, and he proved to them in many ways that he was actually alive. And he talked to them about the Kingdom of God.

⁴ Once when he was eating with them, he commanded them, "Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before. ⁵ John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, "Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?"

⁷ He replied, "The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

⁹ After saying this, he was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, and they could no longer see him. ¹⁰ As they strained to see him rising into heaven, two white-robed men suddenly stood among them. ¹¹ "Men of Galilee," they said, "why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, but someday he will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go!"

¹² Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, a distance of half a mile. ¹³ When they arrived, they went to the upstairs room of the house where they were staying.

[Leviticus 23:15-22]

"From the day after the Sabbath—the day you bring the bundle of grain to be lifted up as a special offering—count off seven full weeks. ¹⁶ Keep counting until the day after the seventh Sabbath, fifty days later. Then present an offering of new grain to the Lord. ¹⁷ From wherever you live, bring two loaves of bread to be lifted up before the Lord as a special offering.

[Exodus 20:18]

When the people heard the thunder and the loud blast of the ram's horn, and when they saw the flashes of lightning and the

smoke billowing from the mountain, they stood at a distance, trembling with fear. [Awe, reverence, worship]

[Exodus 19:5]

Now if you will obey me and keep my covenant, you will be my own special treasure from among all the peoples on earth; for all the earth belongs to me. ⁶ And you will be my kingdom of priests, my holy nation.' This is the message you must give to the people of Israel.

[1 Peter 2:9]

But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

[Acts 2:1-2]

On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place.² Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting.

[Acts 2:3-4]

Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. ⁴ And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.

The law of love is a higher law.

[Exodus 32:28]

The Levites obeyed Moses' command, and about 3,000 people died that day.

[Acts 2:41]

Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all.

[Acts 1:8]

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

[Acts 2:1]

On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place.

[Ruth 1:16]

But Ruth replied, "Don't ask me to leave you and turn back. Wherever you go, I will go; wherever you live, I will live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God.

What can't God do? Nothing is impossible with Him!

[Leviticus 19:9-10]

When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not wholly reap the corners of your field when you reap, nor shall you gather any gleaning from your harvest. You shall leave them for the poor and for the stranger: I am the LORD your God.

[Leviticus 23:17]

From wherever you live, bring two loaves of bread to be lifted up before the Lord as a special offering. Make these loaves from four quarts of choice flour, and bake them with yeast. They will be an offering to the Lord from the first of your crops.

[Matthew 13:33]

Another parable He spoke to them: "The **kingdom of heaven** is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened."

[Matthew 24:14]

This Gospel of the kingdom will be preached around the world, and then the end will come

[Isaiah 2:3]

People from many nations will come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of Jacob's God.
There he will teach us his ways, and we will walk in his paths."
For the Lord's teaching will go out from Zion; his word will go out from Jerusalem.

[Matthew 28:18]

Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Passover is redemption, and Pentecost is revelation.

[Acts 19:1-5, NLT]

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul traveled through the interior regions until he reached Ephesus, on the coast, where he found

several believers. ² "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" he asked them.

"No," they replied, "we haven't even heard that there is a Holy Spirit."

³ "Then what baptism did you experience?" he asked.

And they replied, "The baptism of John."

⁴ Paul said, "John's baptism called for repentance from sin. But John himself told the people to believe in the one who would come later, meaning Jesus."

⁵ As soon as they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ Then when Paul laid his hands on them, **the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in other tongues and prophesied.**

FOR MONDAY-

- 1. Set aside intentional time for gratitude with your family or circle of friends.
- 2. Ask the Holy Spirit to empower you and release fresh authority to reach the world around you.

TALK IT THROUGH

- **1.** What is one celebration or tradition that is unique to your family?
- **2**. What is something you are waiting on? How do we develop staying power in the waiting?
- 3. How does gratitude pave the way for God's provision?

- 4. What do you think God is positioning His church for in this season?
- **5.** How does the empowerment of the Holy Spirit in you also empower those around you?
- 6. What were some of the conditions that prepared the 120 disciples to receive power from the Holy Spirit? What cultural and spiritual context came from Pentecost (OT and NT)?
- 7. Do you believe that God can restore anything in your life? What are some practical 'waiting postures'? Where have you already experienced this?