

Sunday Leftovers

Sermon Title: Pentecost

What's this message about – Have you ever thought about a particular word or term and wondered where it came from? Are there words that we tend to use, but have forgotten their true meaning: Words like “terrific” and “decimate.” From a Christian perspective, the word “Pentecost” falls into that category. Those of us who use it tend to associate it with a denomination (Pentecostals) or the act of speaking in tongues. Though these things have found their meaning through the account in Acts chapter two, they do not define what it is. What many do not realize is that idea and celebration of Pentecost finds its roots close to 1500 years prior to the New Testament account. As we delve into its spiritual significance both then and now we find that Pentecost was and is more about God giving direction and power to his people to do the work of ministry then it is about the circumstances He used to communicate that message.

Questions for discussion:

- *What do you think was the main point of Matt's message?*
- *What does the term “Pentecost” mean to you?*
- *Read Acts 2:1-13: Why do you think we put so much “emphasis” on the “speaking in tongues” part of this story? What do you think is the overall message God is trying to convey?*
- *Why do you think God allows some people to have “extreme” supernatural experiences (like speaking in tongues, etc.) and not others?*
- *Do you think your “spiritual experiences” are directly related to your “spiritual health?”*
- *What have you learned from this message that you can apply toward helping you make progress in your spiritual journey?*

Do something about it: God considers us unique, yet He calls us to be one. We are called to be different, yet we are also called to not let that difference divide us. God has provided us with different gifts and experiences so that we can use them in ministering to others. This week look for opportunities to join with other believers in accomplishing something that could not be done by you alone.

Digging deeper: Acts 2:1-13; Acts 2:40-47; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; Romans 12:1-8; Ephesians 4:1-12; Corinthians 14:12