



PENTECOST – EZEKIEL 36:25-27

GETTING STARTED...

Pentecost Sunday is a huge celebration for the church! And while certain traditions have not always celebrated this holiday, as the church this is the beginning of the church as we know it. Jesus told his disciples to wait until the coming of the Holy Spirit before beginning the work of spreading the gospel to the ends of the earth. He knew that we would need the help of the Holy Spirit in this task. And more than just needing help sharing the gospel, we need his help living it out. As the prophet Ezekiel reminds us, we need the Holy Spirit to hear the gospel, to love the gospel, and to live it out. Pentecost is the celebration of the church as we know it, empowered to share and live the good news of Jesus to the world around us.

READ THE TEXT: EZEKIEL 36:25-27

²⁵ I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORD

1. Read the context of this prophecy? Where are the people of Judah at this point? Look at 36:22, what is the motivating factor for God making this promise to them?
2. How does this promise relate to what we see happen in Acts 2 at Pentecost? How does the Holy Spirit coming confirm this promise to us?

REFLECTING ON THE SERMON

3. What was the main point of the sermon?
4. What has God been impressing on your heart from the sermon?

APPLYING THE POINT

5. How do we put this into practice?

Agassiz How has God Transformed your heart? Where do you think your heart could use some softening? Do you have any stories of the Holy Spirit empowering you to accomplish God's Mission? Have you felt the Holy Spirit prompting you to say or do something, but you haven't done it yet? What is holding you back?

Chilliwack What kind of assurance do you experience by knowing how God is committed to your Salvation and how do you respond to Him? How do you aim towards the heart of your children or those you are disciplining and not just their actions? What practical steps can you take now that you know the Holy Spirit of God dwells in you in order to accomplish the Great Commission? Take a few moments to thank Jesus for His amazing promises and the gift of reconciliation with God you have received.

*Harrison &
Lake Errock* Oftentimes we associate the work of the Spirit with empowering the workings of spiritual gifts in believers and forget that a crucial role of the Spirit is empowering followers of Christ to live in accordance with God's commands. In the past, how have you fought sin in your own power? How can you grow to rely far more on the Spirit to fight sin? The clearest purpose of the Spirit in the context of Acts 1-2 is to empower followers of Christ to share the Gospel with everyone, everywhere. When was the last time you had a Gospel centered conversation with an unbeliever? How might you rely more on the Spirit's empowerment in the area of evangelism?

Promontory What difference has the Holy Spirit made in your life? What does Paul's admonition to the Galatians is to "walk by the Spirit," what has helped you to accomplish this? How can we do this more in our lives?

PRAYING & SHARING

1. How can you share what you have learned with... another believer?
An unbeliever?

2. Share and pray for one another in your life group. How can you specifically pray for and encourage one another in response to this text?



How to Use this Guide

This guide is intended to help facilitate Central Life Groups as they meet to understand the Bible passage, discuss the sermon, and how to put it into practice in our lives. What is contained in this guide is not an exhaustive text analysis nor a full list of questions that can or should be asked during Life Group. This is simply a guide to help **start conversations that are centered on the Word of God.**

The Life Group Guide is separated into three main sections that are arranged with an intentional order: *Understanding the Word*, *Reflecting on the Sermon*, and *Applying the Point*. We want to first understand the Word of God, and then check that understanding by what has been preached, and then discuss how to put it into practice in our own lives. The order is intended to imitate the process of how the Word of God makes changes in our lives. Head, heart, hands, and all of it wrapped in prayer.

While the meaning of a text doesn't change, the way that we are called to apply it may look different from campus to campus, and even person to person. To reflect this distinction, you will see application questions from each campus in this guide.

Start with the question(s) from your campus and then look at others to see if they are helpful for your group. You may be surprised how similar or different they end up being and how the diversity brings a fuller understanding to how we can apply the Word of God.

Our goal is not that you answer every question in this guide, but that you are able to discuss the Word of God in a way **that helps everyone follow Jesus together!**

*"Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them." - Psalm 111:2*