

# Festivalis

## *Week #2: Pentecost*

- John 16:7 - *But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.*

Jesus' **departure** was for the Church's good.

- John 16:8-10 - *8 When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: 9 about sin, because people do not believe in me; 10 about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; 11 and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.*

The Holy Spirit's **arrival** was for the Church's good.

- Acts 2 - *When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place...4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.*
- Acts 2 - *14 Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd...22 "Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. 23 This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men,[d] put him to death by nailing him to the cross. 24 But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him....36 "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah."*
- Acts 2 - *37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" 38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call." 40 With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." 41 Those who believed the message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.*

The Holy Spirit's **work** continues to be for the Church's good.

- 1 Corinthians 12:3 - *No one can say Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.*
- Romans 8:14-16 - *For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. 15 The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." 16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.*

### ***Points to Ponder***

- 1) Peter's message that first Pentecost cut thousands to the heart and then comforted their souls. Someone has said that God's goal is to "afflict the comfortable and comfort the afflicted." How do the Law and Gospel help carry out that goal? Why is it vitally important to preach the them both clearly but also at the right time?
- 2) Sometimes Christians can be overwhelmed by the state of Christianity today. Why is remembering the blessing that we have in the Holy Spirit and the spiritual power source that he is comforting to us as we continue to carry out the church's mission in our community?
- 3) Reread Romans 8:14-16. What about the Holy Spirit's work has been for your personal good? When you reconsider Jesus' words "this is for your good", how does the celebration of Pentecost and all that has happened since in the Church's history reinforce how right he was?

***Homework: Matthew 4:13-16 & 28:16-20***