

(Series Info)**One Church, One Mission: Gathered for a Reason**

This week's big idea is the fact that we are gathered as a church to be strengthened by the Holy Spirit so that we can scatter into the world as witnesses of Jesus.

(Personal Fun Facts)

What is one place you go every week where you regularly come into contact with people who may be far from God?

(Takeaways)

What was a major takeaway moment during the sermon this week?

(Discussion)**Scripture: Acts 1:8**

Jesus is preparing His disciples for what comes next. They have witnessed first-hand His ministry, His death, and His resurrection. They have received His teaching. It is interesting that Jesus tells them to, before they launch out on the greatest mission on earth, to wait. Jesus knows that the mission He is giving them cannot be accomplished by human ingenuity. Jesus doesn't just give His followers an assignment. He gives them His Spirit.

- 1) What do you notice about the disciples once the Holy Spirit comes upon them?
- 2) When you hear "the power of the Holy Spirit," what do you think that actually means?

Scripture: Acts 2:1–13

Pentecost was a Jewish festival occurring fifty days after Passover. Jerusalem would have been filled with worshipers from many nations. There are amazing things that happened when the Holy Spirit was revealed. A violent rushing wind. Tongues of fire. People speaking languages they never heard and others hearing the gospel in their own language. The Holy Spirit's presence creates a witness to people who do not yet know Jesus. It was on this Day of Pentecost that launched the Church and its mission.

- 3) What details about Pentecost stand out to you the most?

- 4) What does the diversity of people present at Pentecost tell us about the scope of God's mission?
- 5) Why do you think Christians are sometimes more interested in experiencing the Holy Spirit personally than being sent by the Holy Spirit missionally?

Scripture: Hebrews 10:24–25

Keep gathering. Keep associating yourself with your local congregation. Attend church ... but know why you are attending. Are you provoking one another toward love and good works? Or are you a spectator? Are you encouraging one another? Or are you coming to church, watching the service, and going home without talking to anyone? We don't gather simply to consume something from the church. We gather together so that God can form something within us that we end up carrying out to the world.

- 6) What is the difference between attending church and being spiritually formed by the church community?
- 7) What if the success of our church were measured not by how many people we gather on the weekend, but by how many "Spirit-empowered" followers of Jesus we send into the world every week?

Closing Moments & Personal Application

- Where do you see the Holy Spirit working and how can you join Him there?
- What if the Holy Spirit hasn't simply been given to comfort you, teach you, or strengthen you, but has been given to send you?
- What is the Holy Spirit trying to do in you?

Closing Prayer

Holy Spirit,

Thank You for meeting us when we gather to worship. Thank You for teaching us, encouraging us, correcting us, comforting us, and forming us. Give us the courage we need

where we are afraid. Give us compassion where we have become indifferent. Give us the eyes to notice people we normally overlook. Give us words when an opportunity comes. Give us wisdom to know when to speak and when to listen. And give us the courage to obey when You prompt us. We don't want to just attend church. We want to be Your Church. Fill us with Your Spirit. Form us into the likeness of Jesus. And send us into Your world with courage and strength.

In Jesus' name. Amen.