

MAY 15, 2016
PENTECOST

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I will pour out my Spirit.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.

Sunday	Acts 2:1-21	Filled with the Holy Spirit
Monday	Joel 2:18-29	God's Spirit poured out
Tuesday	John 14:8-17,25-27	Jesus promises the Holy Spirit
Wednesday	Acts 8:14-25	Samaritans receive the Holy Spirit
Thursday	1 Corinthians 2:1-13	About the Spirit of God
Friday	Romans 8:1-17	Life through the Spirit
Saturday	Psalms 51:10-17	Grant me a willing spirit
Sunday	John 16:12-15	The Spirit will guide you into truth

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

When the last days come, I will give my Spirit to everyone. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young men will see visions, and your old men will have dreams. **Acts 2:17 (CEV)**

SAY, PRAY, AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

O God, pour out your Spirit on us this week, so that we speak of the great things you have done. Amen. (Acts 2:11,17)

Mealtime Prayer:

As we look to you, we are blessed with food. When you send your Spirit, we are renewed. All praise to God! Amen. (Psalm 104:27,30)

A Blessing to Give:

May the Holy Spirit be poured out upon you to live boldly as God's adopted child and do great things in the name of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen. (Acts 2:17; Romans 8:15; and John 14:12-13)



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CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home or small group:

- What is it like to be afraid of someone?
- By the power of the Spirit, we are able to call God "Abba," which is an intimate way of referring to God as "Father" or "Daddy" (Romans 8:15-16). How is that different from a relationship to God based on fear?
- In John 14, the Spirit is described as the Advocate, someone who walks alongside us. How do you imagine God walking alongside you each day?

DEVOTIONS



In Acts 2:1-21, Peter interprets events that confused the crowds that had gathered together on the day of Pentecost. He quotes Joel to point out that these are the "last days" when all people will receive God's Spirit. Pentecost is about the birth of the church and its mission to go out into the world and prophesy, that is, tell of God's activity in the world through the death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus. In this sense, we are all prophets like Peter. To be a Christian prophet is to see the world through the lens of what Jesus has done for us. As a prophet of God, pray that you may see your life and the world around you through the eyes of Jesus.

SERVICE



The Acts of the Apostles reminds us of the global reach of the work of the church. Learn about some aspect of global missions in your church, pray for the ministry and consider some way of actively supporting the work of the church around the world.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Throughout the centuries, the church has humbly prayed for the promised gift of the Holy Spirit with the words, "Come, Holy Spirit, come." Make a commitment of the next week (and beyond) to rise in the morning and say, "**Come, Holy Spirit, come!**" Also, say it as you light a candle at mealtime.

Take time out for a fun Pentecost-related activity this week that makes use of the wind, such as kite-flying or bubble blowing.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org