

SERMON NOTE: Pentecost The Spirit Comes-and Start The Church

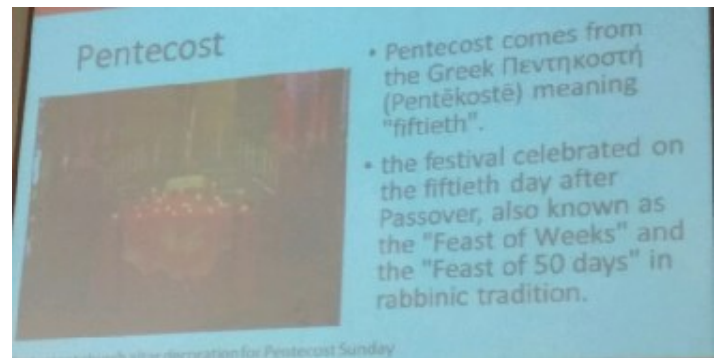
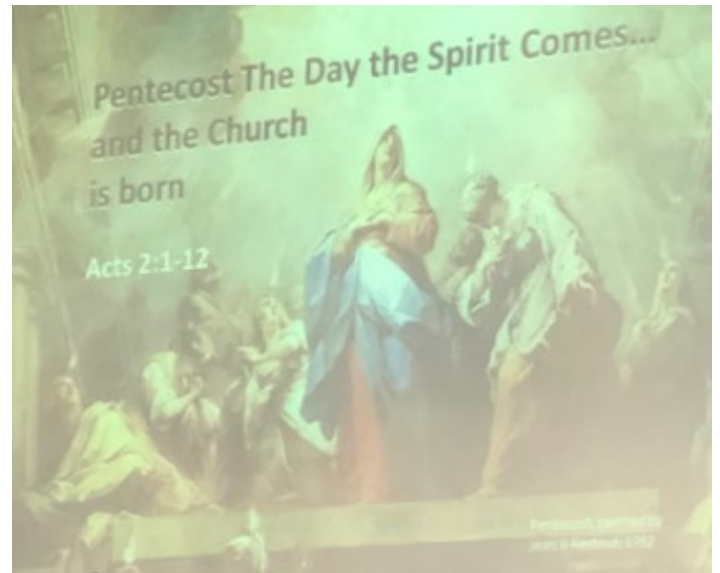


By Elder Dr Alex Tang

Bible Ref: Acts 2:1-12 NIV1

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

<https://bible.com/bible/111/act.2.1-12.NIV>



Acts 2:2 NIV

Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.

<https://bible.com/bible/111/act.2.2.NIV>



Dr Alex wept during the Thanksgiving Celebration for the purchased of the grace land. For the gift from GOD, so graciously provided. And the Church leader have the faith to take up the challenge to buy it.

Acts 2:3-7 NIV

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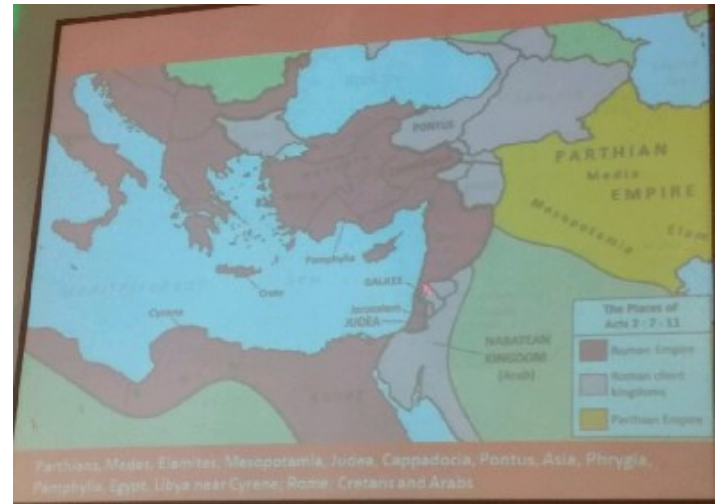
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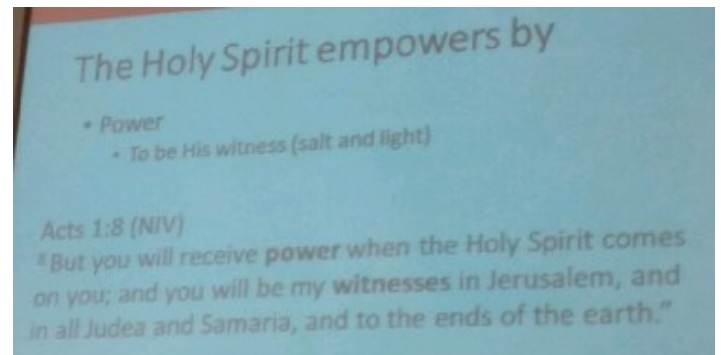
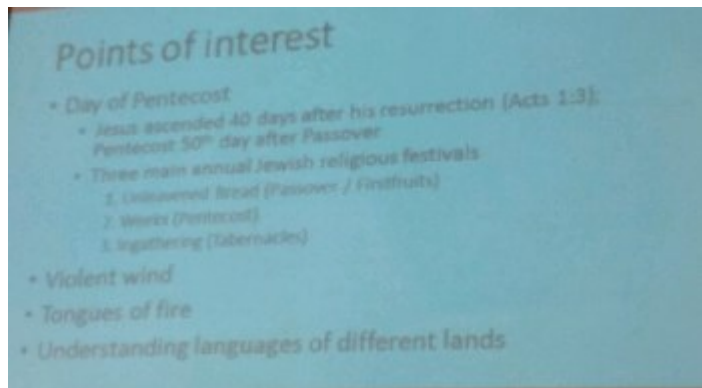
Acts 2:9-12 NIV

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By the Holy Spirit, the power of GOD bright back people from the nations above, to re-gather together the nations HE made to dispersed.



The power to enable us to live lives in CHRIST.



This map may be the whole world to the understanding of the writer at that time. During the building of Tower of Babel, they are the countries.



The false self	The true self of God
Fallen image of God (Rom.1:23)	Restored image of God (Col.1:15;Rom.8:29)
Old man (Col.3:9 KJV)	New man (Rom.8:29)
Old self (Rom.6:6; Eph.4:22-24)	New self (Col.3:10; Eph.4:24))
Old nature (Eph.4:22)	New nature (2 Cor.4:16)
Heart of stone (Eze.11:19)	Heart of flesh (Eze.11:19)
Flesh (Rom.8:13; Gal.5:19-21)	Live in the Spirit (Rom.8:5)
Natural man (1 Cor.2:14)	New creation (2 Cor.5:17)

The Holy Spirit empowers by

- Power
- Fruit of the Spirit
- Spiritual Gifts



The false Self	The true self in God
The "me" I have created to get by in life without God and to get my needs met apart from him	The authentic, original "me", free from all pretence, as God intended and as I am now "in Christ"
Security and significance achieved by what we have, what we can do, and what others think of us	Security and significance achieved by being deeply loved by God
Happiness sought in autonomy from God and through attachments to possessions & people of our well-being	Fulfillment found in dependency upon God, and surrender to him; through living our vocation
Identity is our idealized self (who we want others to think we are)	Identity is who we are -- and becoming -- in Christ
Achieved by means of pretence and practice	Received as a gift with gratitude and surrender
Maintained by effort and control	Maintained by grace (and Holy Spirit)
Embraces illusion as a means of attempting to become a god	Embraces reality as the place of meeting and being transformed by God
Results in pride, arrogance, defensiveness. Appears unnatural and forced	Results in humility, love and openness. Appears natural and relaxed

Spiritual Gifts

"Gifts"	"Service"	"Workings"
1 Cor. 12	1 Cor. 12:18-28	1 Cor. 12:8-11
Motivational (Charismata)	Ministry (Diakonia)	Manifestation (Energamata)
Prophecy	Apostles	Word of Wisdom
Service	Prophets	Word of Knowledge
Teaching	Evangelists	Faith
Encouragement	Pastor/Teacher	Healing
Giving	Teachers	Miracles
Leadership	Miracles	Prophecy
Mercy	Helping	Discernment
	Tongues	Tongues
	Administration	Interpretation

The Holy Spirit encourages us by HIS presence

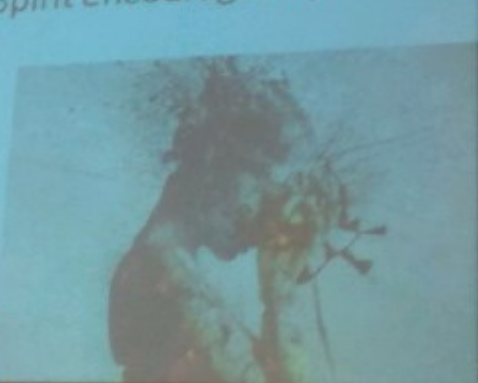
Life in Christ

False Self
↓
True Self

Maybe the journey isn't so much about becoming anything. Maybe it's about unbecoming everything that isn't really you, so you can be who you were meant to be in the first place.

The Holy Spirit encourages by

- His Presence



You are not Alone

Also the Holy Spirit empower us to:

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Galatians 5:22-23 (NIV)
22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

- LOVE**: Seek the highest good of others.
- JOY**: Happiness that is not based on circumstances.
- PEACE**: Inner peace and harmony with others.
- PATIENCE**: Endurance and forbearance.
- KINDNESS**: Being kind and helpful.
- GOODNESS**: Being good and doing good.
- FAITHFULNESS**: Dependable, loyal, and full of trust.
- GENTLENESS**: Humble, calm, and non-threatening.
- SELF-CONTROL**: Behaving well.

The Holy Spirit encourages by


- His Presence
- Body life



Seder meal at SFI seminar 2019

The Holy Spirit encourages by

- His Presence
- Body life
- Spiritual direction




On the Emmaus road

Someone to help/guide us to discern what the Holy Spirit is leading us to

The Holy Spirit engages by

- Communion with the Trinitarian God



The Holy Spirit engages by

- Communion with the Trinitarian God
- Praying for us

Romans 8:26–27 (NIV)
²⁶In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. ²⁷And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

The Holy Spirit engages by

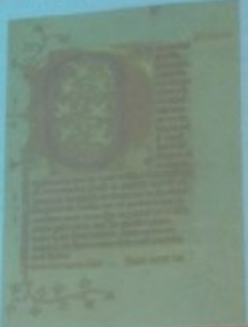
- Communion with the Trinitarian God
- Praying for us
- Helping us to love and help others by giving us seven gifts

The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Isaiah 11:1–2 (NIV)
 A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.
²The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD—

The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit

1. Wisdom
2. Understanding
3. Counsel
4. Fortitude
5. Knowledge
6. Piety
7. Fear of the Lord.



Isaiah 11:1–2 (NIV)

The Holy Spirit comes for

- Empowerment
- Encouragement
- Engagement



to start the Church and transform the members into a people of God for the Kingdom of God