

Pentecost

- Today is Pentecost – The birthday of the Church
 - Ginni and I were married on Pentecost
 - Pentecost was June 10 that year
 - So every year we have 2 anniversaries (June 10 & Pentecost)
 - When we met, we both a strong relationship with God
 - HS was real for us – we’d experienced His presence & it changed us
 - So when we decided to get married it was only natural to do it on Pentecost
 - Ginni and I had a taste of what the Apostles experienced on Pentecost
 - Let me walk you through that – Jesus is crucified, suffers and dies
 - Apostles run and hide (then in comes Mary Magdeline)
 - He rises from the dead – shows them hands and feet – and they Rejoice!
 - 40 days of resurrection appearances THEN-
 - ASCENSION – He rises and returns to the Father (Now what?)
 - Alone again – back to the Upper Room (imagine the scene, the turmoil)
 - (Mary was with them) Fear/Uncertainty – Mary says: “Peter, Let’s Pray”
 - What happens?
 - They get out of their fear and into the presence of God
 - After crucifixion they were empty – but
 - After Pentecost, they were filled - filled with the Holy Spirit!
 - It was no longer right for the disciples to be afraid and hiding
 - They had been prepared to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ
 - They had been prepared to form the People of God
 - They had been given the power to forgive sins
 - Now they had to get to work
 - **WE** have been prepared to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ
 - **WE** have been prepared to form the People of God
 - **WE** have been given the gift of forgiveness of our sins
 - Now **WE** have to get to work
 - Let me tell you a story about my mother
 - Empty perfume bottle and scarf –
 - The bottle is empty, she’s getting by on fumes.
 - Are we filled with the HS or getting by on fumes?
 - The power of the HS is real – there is no way we should be getting by on fumes!
 - As Christians – that same fire, that same power is ours today.
 - WE have been empowered to change the world!
 - J the B said “One is coming after me that’ll baptize with fire & HS”
 - What happened on Pentecost? Exactly that!
 - RCIA –& *Church grows*
 - CCD –& *Church grows*
 - Baptisms & - & *Church grows*
 - Power of HS is in our midst
 - It all began on Pentecost Sunday – the birth of the Church
- Prophets proclaimed “A day is coming when I will be your God and you will be my people”
- We rejoice that today is that day. On Pentecost HS fills the People of God
 - HS fills us that we can go forth from here and build the Kingdom of God
 - Let’s get busy –