

Listening for the Promise

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

May 9, 2021 — Sixth Sunday of Easter

“The Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word.”

– Acts 10:44 –

We desire order and control in our lives. We prefer to have a place for everything and everything in its place. But the gospel is out of our control and is under the wild control of the Holy Spirit. There are times where we, like Peter, are simply amazed (vs. 45) at the workings and power of the Holy Spirit. Peter stepped out of his comfort zone and began to preach, and was amazed at what happened when things literally got out of his control.

The resurrection of Jesus is not just the miracle of a dead body being raised from the dead. It is not just the sheer joy we receive from the promise that our eventually dead bodies will be raised from grave. Easter is a claim about who God is and what God is currently up to in the world now that Jesus has been raised from the dead. Our time, our human history, and our course in life has been turned upside down.

Now that you know this, have you wondered what to say to people about your faith?

This could have been Peter’s best thought-out and prepared sermon. But Peter only manages to spit out a few words before the Holy Spirit broke in and took over. We too may be timid, uncertain, and unprepared for what to say. We may be settled in our comfort zone and have surrounded ourselves with those whom we know. However, the Holy Spirit is bold and powerful, and will not let us remain in our self-imposed space.

The Holy Spirit will leap over boundaries and empower you to speak of the mighty works of God and then surprise you. This passage shows the Holy Spirit is unruly and wild, jumping into the hearts of people. This is an amazing claim. The same Holy Spirit is now busy with you today as it was with Peter back then! Don’t worry about what you may say to someone who is in desperate need. The Holy Spirit will finish the words for you and they will fall onto the hearer with power.

Let us pray: *O Holy Spirit, let us become a witness to the outbreak of the Holy Spirit among us. Help us to spread the good news of Jesus being raised from the dead. Have the Holy Spirit leap over all boundaries and be out of our control. Amen.*

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