

Breath and Being-Pentecost:“When the Wind Came In”

Acts 2:1–21, John 14:15–17, Ezekiel 37:1–14

Opening Prayer: Holy Spirit, Come into this space and into our hearts. Open our minds to hear Your voice and soften us to receive Your presence. Where we are fearful, bring courage. Where we are weary, bring fresh wind. Where we are resistant, bring surrender. Form us together into people who reflect the love and boldness of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Theme: The Story Abides: The Holy Spirit meets ordinary people in their waiting, fills them with courage, and sends them into the world as witnesses of God’s love. Pentecost reminds us that the Spirit is not meant to be contained behind closed doors, but to move through our lives with boldness, compassion, and transformation.

Secular Quote: *“Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear—not absence of fear.”*
—Mark Twain

Starter Question: Tell about a moment in your life when everything suddenly changed — maybe through a phone call, a conversation, an opportunity, or a difficult event. How did that moment reshape you?

Digging Deeper Questions

1. Waiting Before the Wind: The disciples were gathered together waiting when the Spirit came. The sermon points out that waiting can feel weak or unproductive, yet God often uses waiting as preparation.

- Why do you think waiting is so difficult for us spiritually?
- Can you think of a season where God used waiting to prepare or shape you?
- What is something you may currently be waiting on God for?

2. Wind That Disrupts: The Spirit arrived like a violent wind, not a gentle breeze.

- What areas of life do we prefer God not disrupt?
- Why do you think we often want comfort more than transformation?
- What might it mean for the Spirit to “blow open” closed doors in your life?

3. Fire for Everyone: The fire rested on each person gathered there, not just the leaders.

- How does it change the way you think about yourself to know the Spirit is given to ordinary believers?
- Have you ever believed God could use others spiritually, but not really you?

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- What gifts or opportunities might God already be stirring within you?

4. Speaking So Others Understand: At Pentecost, people heard the gospel in their own language. The miracle was understanding.

- What are some “languages” people speak today besides words? (Examples: kindness, patience, listening, compassion, service.)
- Who in your life may need to experience the gospel through love before they can hear it through words?
- How can the church become a place where people feel understood instead of judged?

5. From Fear to Faithfulness: Peter went from denying Jesus to boldly preaching Him.

- What fears most often keep people silent about faith?
- What is the difference between being loud and being spiritually bold?
- Where might God be calling you to greater faithfulness this week?

Actionable Step This Week: This week, prayerfully identify one conversation, relationship, or situation you have been avoiding because of fear, discomfort, or uncertainty. Before entering that moment, pray:

“Holy Spirit, give me courage and compassion.”

Then intentionally step into that space with honesty, grace, and love. Your role is not to force outcomes, but to be open to how the Spirit may work through your presence, listening, and faithfulness.

Closing Reflection: Pentecost reminds us that the Spirit still moves. God still breathes life into weary hearts. God still empowers ordinary people. The question is not whether the Spirit is active — the question is whether we are willing to open the doors we have closed in fear and allow God to move through us again

Closing Prayer

Come, Holy Spirit. Blow through the closed rooms of our hearts and awaken us again. Where fear has kept us silent, give us courage. Where comfort has made us stagnant, stir us to move. Fill us not for ourselves alone, but for the sake of the world You love. Teach us to speak with grace, listen with compassion, and live with bold faithfulness. May we not simply remember Pentecost — may we participate in the ongoing work of Your Spirit every day. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

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Daily Scripture Guide:

“When the Wind Came In”

Pentecost Week Devotional Journey

Based on Acts 2:1–21 and this Sunday’s message

Monday — Waiting on God

Scripture: Luke 24:49

“Stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

Tuesday — Fresh Wind

Scripture: Ezekiel 37:9–10

“Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.”

Reflection: The Spirit came like wind because God’s breath always brings life.

Wednesday — Courage Over Fear

Scripture: 2 Timothy 1:7

“For God did not give us a spirit of fear, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.”

Thursday — Fire That Refines

Scripture: Malachi 3:2–3

“For he is like a refiner’s fire...”

Friday — Speaking the Language of Love

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:1–2

“If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong...”

Saturday — Sent Into the World

Scripture: Matthew 5:14–16

“You are the light of the world...”

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