

Pentecost 2025 Luke 4:14–21; 9:1–6; 24:45–49

Pentecost is one of those church holy days that can go overlooked. If you grew up in a more liturgical tradition where you followed the church calendar, Pentecost was a day you celebrated every year. Or maybe you grew up in a charismatic tradition—Pentecost is one of, if not the most, important holy day in the charismatic tradition. Regardless your background or tradition, Pentecost celebrates the giving of the Holy Spirit to the church in Acts.

Live out of the power and authority of Jesus that is yours through the Holy Spirit.

- As you reflect on the message, what stood out to you? What is something you are still thinking about?
- What is something from the message that challenged you? How are you wrestling with that challenge?
- What question(s) do you have from the message?
- What is at least one practical takeaway from the message?

## Luke 4:14-21

14 And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. 15 And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all.

16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. 17 And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written.

18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

20 And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. 21 And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

## Luke 9:1-6

And he called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, **2** and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. **3** And he said to them, "Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money; and do not have two tunics. **4** And whatever house you enter, stay there, and from there depart. **5** And wherever they do not receive you, when you leave that town shake off the dust from your feet as a testimony against them." **6** And they departed and went through the villages, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere.

## Luke 24:45–49

**45** Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, **46** and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, **47** and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. **48** You are witnesses of these things. **49** And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

 What has been your experience with the Holy Spirit in church tradition? How was the Holy Spirit thought of, spoken of, experienced, etc?

- As you reflect on Pentecost today, how do you think about and understand the Holy Spirit?
- Luke writes that Jesus "returned in the power of the Holy Spirit" (4:14), and Jesus declares "The Spirit of the lord is upon me" (4:18). What did it look like for Jesus to have the Holy Spirit in his life and ministry?
- Look back over Isaiah's prophecy in verses 18–19. How did Jesus fulfill these actions in his life and ministry?
- Think about this: Jesus is both God and simultaneously needed the power and authority of the Holy Spirit. Why do you think this is?
- In Luke 9:1 we're told that Jesus gave the disciples "power and authority." What does this mean?
- In Luke 9:1–6 how are the disciples similar to Jesus and dissimilar?
- In Luke 24:45–49, Jesus makes one final promise. What is it, and why should it be important to us?
- Since we have the power of the Holy Spirit today, how do you experience the Holy Spirit?
- In what ways are you not experiencing the power and authority of the Holy Spirit today? What should you do about this?
- How does it make you feel to know that you not only have the presence of the Holy Spirit, but you have access to his power and authority?
- What would it look like if your life and ministry were defined by the power and authority of the Holy Spirit?