

Lectionary Bible Study

For Sunday, May 28, 2023 (Pentecost)

Acts 2:1-21

Discussion Starters

1. What is Pentecost and what was its significance to the Jews?
2. Why did God wait until Pentecost to give the Holy Spirit? (See Deuteronomy 16:9-10)
3. Who were these first hearers of the gospel message? Why does the text list their home countries? (See Genesis 11:1-9)
4. How does being filled with the Holy Spirit relate to the task of bearing witness to Jesus?
5. What do you learn here about "speaking in tongues?"

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

Discussion Starters

1. Why does Paul repeatedly emphasize the "same-ness" of God in verses 4-6?
2. According to this passage, why are spiritual gifts given? What does that say to someone who either doesn't know or doesn't use his/her spiritual gift?
3. Why is the Holy Spirit necessary in order to say "Jesus is Lord?"
4. Is a diversity of gifts a good thing or a bad thing? Which gifts are better than the others?

John 20:19-23

Discussion Starters

1. Of all the things Jesus must have said in His time with the disciples, why does John record "Peace be with you" multiple times?
2. What does it mean to have the power to grant or withhold forgiveness?
3. Have you received the gift of the Holy Spirit? How has that impacted your life?
4. Describe the range of emotions experienced by the disciples in this short passage? Which best describes where you are at this moment in time?

WRAP UP

What key insight did you gain from this Bible study? How might it make a difference in how you live today?