

The Pentecost and the Birth of the Church

Objectives

To understand how the Holy Spirit can transform our lives to glorify God's name

References

Holy Scripture

Scriptural Verse

"Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is the way, walk in it,' Whenever you turn to the right hand Or whenever you turn to the left." **Isaiah 30:21**

Lesson Outline

What makes us Christians?

We all know that we are supposed to do good deeds and but humble, gentle, etc, but is that all that is required? We need the Holy Spirit in order to complete us and make us God's children. Without the Holy Spirit, the church could not have begun. Not because the disciples were evil, just that they were inadequate. Let's look at some of the ways the disciples behaved while Christ lived among them.

Confused

Luke 9:28-33 - Transfiguration

Quarrelsome and selfish

Luke 9:46-48 – Who is the greatest?

Mark 10:35-45 – Asking to sit at Christ's right and left

Afraid & lack courage

John 18:15-18, 25-26 – Peter denying Christ

Mark 14:48-50 – Disciples forsaking Christ

Unforgiving & quick to cast judgment

James & John his brother were called Sons of Thunder because of their temper.

Luke 9:51-56 – Asking to destroy the people

Lazy and inconsiderate

Mark 14:32-40 – Garden of Gethsemane

Lacking faith

Matthew 14:25-32 – Jesus walking on water

Matthew 14:15-21 – Feeding the five thousand

Matthew 15:32-37 – Feeding the four thousand

Misunderstanding Christ's mission

Luke 24:13-21

Disciples were good people, but without the Holy Spirit they fell short. Even though they had given all they had for the sake of the Gospel and had all the right intentions, they were still not able to carry out their mission without the Holy Spirit.

What did Christ tell the disciples about the Holy Spirit?

He will abide with us forever

John 14:16

Teach us all things and remind us of Christ's commands

John 14:26

He will tell us the truth

John 15:26

It is better to walk with God in us, rather than next to us

John 16:7

So what happened at the Pentecost?

Acts 2:2-4 and Acts 2:37-39

He gave them:

Courage and purpose

Acts 1:8

Love

Acts 4:32-35

Joy in Christ

Acts 2:46-47

Conclusion

The Spirit gave all these things to them and continues to give us today. It is the Spirit that guides us in what we do, and makes us confident that we are walking in a path that God has designed for us.

Activities/Discussion Points

1. How are we able to listen to the Holy Spirit within us?
2. How can we allow the Holy Spirit to work more in our lives?