



## **Pentecost - Here Comes the Power**

Pastor Christine: June 4, 2017

### **I. Acts 2:1-4**

- A. Violent wind or breath is a symbol of the Holy Spirit of God. Tongues of fire is a descriptive metaphor where several languages are about to be spoken. Fire is a symbol of divine presence.
- B. Jews from every nation heard those filled with the Holy Spirit as all were enabled to speak and understand languages native to the places they came from.
- C. The unity of Pentecost and the separation in the Tower of Babel are in sharp contrast to one another.

### **II. Pentecost and what it means**

- A. Sometimes a name loses its original meaning - Pentecostalism and the phenomenon of speaking in tongues.
- B. Luke is describing something new, a great movement from ordinary men and women.
- C. First century Jews, festivals, memories; the redeemed living out God's purpose.

### **III. What the New Testament says about the Spirit and Pentecost**

- A. Holy Spirit filled apostles bearing witness, winning converts, a sheath offered to God and a sign of the harvest to come.
- B. Moses went up the mountain and came down with the law, Jesus ascended to heaven and came down with the dynamic energy of the law to be written on human hearts.

### **IV. The Confirmands and God's Story in the Six C's**

- A. Our imaginations, powers of speech and transformation from a listless or lifeless believer into someone whose heart is on fire for the love of God.
- B. Wind, fire and the spirit accomplishing new things in the lives of individuals and communities.
- C. The power to be and do something new is available through the spirit to all who call on him, all who follow him, all who trust him.

### **V. Speaking in tongues and similar phenomena**

- A. Getting in touch with buried emotions and bringing them to the surface in praise, celebration, grief or sorrow, or urgent desire turned into prayer.
- B. We are called to be people of God's Word, but God cannot be controlled by rationalistic schemes, contained within our frameworks or put under our control.
- C. God moves mysteriously and uniquely through individuals, what he will do when he comes is anybody's guess! Be prepared for wind and fire and some drastic house cleaning on your way to uniquely bringing glory to God.