

# PENTECOST

JOHN 15:26-16:15 | ACTS 2:1-21

## Warm up question:

- What's the most 'spiritual' moment you've experienced? Why did it impact you so profoundly?

## Read John 15:26-16:15

1. What names does John use for the Spirit in this passage? What does this tell us about the Spirit?
2. What does John tell us about the various things the Spirit will do? (15:26, 16:13-14)
3. Why does Jesus say that he must go, and the Spirit must come? Why couldn't Jesus just stay?

*Jewish people would gather in Jerusalem for the 3 main feasts (**Feast of the Passover** – Deuteronomy 16:1-8) (**Feast of Weeks/Pentecost** – Leviticus 23:15-22 & Deuteronomy 16:9-12) (**Feast of Tabernacles** – Leviticus 23:39-44 & Deuteronomy 16:13-17). The word Pentecost comes from the Greek word Pentēkostē (meaning fiftieth). The Feast of Weeks was fifty days after the Feast of Passover. Because there were only fifty days between these very important feasts, and because many people had travelled a great distance to be there, people would remain in Jerusalem from Passover through to Pentecost – meaning the city would be busy during this whole period. At the Feast of Weeks, they gave thanks to God for his generous provision and faithfulness in providing the first harvest.*

## Read Acts 2:1-13

4. As you have heard this Scripture many times before, try to put aside what you already know about Pentecost. Observe what the text actually says – is there anything new that stands out to you?
5. The disciples are enabled to speak in other languages. What was the purpose of this? (verse 11)
6. The Holy Spirit had been promised beforehand. Do you think that this would have been their expectation of what would happen when it came? Why/Why not?

## Read Acts 2:14-21

7. Why do you think Peter uses the passage from Joel 2:28-32 to explain what is happening? Have a look at the context of the Joel passage (especially from Joel 2:18 onwards).
8. In what ways was John 15:26-16:15 fulfilled in Acts 2?
9. How has these readings continued to be fulfilled throughout the years and even among us today?
10. What else stands out for you in these passages?

## Rubber hits the road:

- As you read these passages, what stirred in your heart? How is the Spirit challenging the way you live as a believer and how is it challenging us as a church? Spend some time in prayer bringing these things to God.

