



SERMON NOTES

THE HOLY SPIRIT

Week 2 (May 23, 2021):
"Fruit of
the Spirit"

Galatians 5:16, 22-23

I. Pentecost

- A. Pentecost falls _____ days after Easter, and was originally a Jewish festival that fell _____ days after the festival of "First Fruits."
- B. At Pentecost, the first Christians experienced the sound of a _____ that filled the house where they were sitting.
- C. In this mysterious experience, the early Jesus followers began to speak in other _____ and yet they could understand one another.

II. The Wind

- A. The Hebrew word Ruach can mean Spirit, or _____ or _____.
- B. When we are feeling down, sometimes we say, "I had the _____ knocked out of me." Or "It took the _____ right out of my sails."
- C. George Floyd's last words, "I can't breathe" have become a symbol for _____ around the world.

III. Movement of the Spirit

- A. John Wesley described May 24, 1738 as "Aldersgate day," a moment when he said his heart was _____ by an experience of the Holy Spirit.
- B. As the spiritual movement grew, Wesley sent a bishop to the Americas named Francis _____.
- C. Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control are facets of the "fruit of the Spirit," which _____ to our faith, more than our words.

Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message

ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE

INTRODUCTION

To grow in our spiritual life, the scriptures call us to “walk in the Spirit” or live by the rhythm of the Holy Spirit. Paul says the evidence of walking in the Spirit is the “fruit” characterized by “love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” (Galatians 5:22-23.) Our lives will witness to Christ, not so much through our words, but through our fruit, born through the Spirit’s inner transformation.

Monday: John 15:9-17

We learn in this passage that the way to walk in the Spirit is to “abide” in the love Jesus has for us. As you read that Jesus calls you “friend,” what emotions does that bring up for you? We also learn that Jesus “chose you,” specifically to “go and bear fruit.” Do Jesus’s words bring up questions for you? Do you ever wonder why Jesus chose you? Or what fruit you are supposed to produce? As you pray, listen for God to answer these questions for you.

Tuesday: Romans 8:1-4

Chapter 8 in Romans is often described as the high point of the Apostle Paul’s writing. It begins with the statement that there is “no condemnation” and the chapter ends with the promise of “no separation” from God. Here, we learn that Christ offers us “freedom” through the Holy Spirit. As you grow in your faith, do you have a growing sense of freedom from weight of sin, and of death? As you pray, ask God to help you accept this gift of freedom today.

Wednesday: Romans 8:5-11

As we continue reading Romans 8, we encounter baptismal language, as we are raised to new life because of Christ’s resurrection. But then Paul has this startling news, “the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you.” In other words, every day, Christ-followers carry with them the same Spirit that raised Jesus from death. Has there been a time in your life when that power felt real to you? Can you ask God today to help you sense the true power you have to overcome all your circumstances?

Thursday: John 3:1-8

Nicodemus, a Pharisee, comes to see Jesus “by night.” Can you imagine what their meeting was like? Nicodemus seems very confused when Jesus tell him that he must be “born from above” or “born again.” Perhaps you are confused by this language as well. Jesus invites you to a new life in his Spirit, what has that meant to you? Jesus describes the Spirit like the wind that blows freely. What does that image bring to mind for you? Ask Jesus to show you what being “born of the Spirit” means for you today.

Friday: Romans 8:22-27

This passage speaks to our sense that in our current situation, we “groan inwardly” as we wait for the fullness of hope that will come with the “redemption of our bodies.” Meanwhile, we know that when we don’t have the words to pray, the Spirit speaks with “wordless groans” on our behalf. Can you think about a time in your life when you needed the Spirit to pray on your behalf because you couldn’t put together the words and thoughts for a prayer? Can you sense the Holy Spirit was there with you then? And now?

MOVING FORWARD: Galatians 5:22-23

As you revisit this passage, meditate on the fruit of the Spirit. When have you been able to give and receive much love? What brings you joy? In what ways are you kind and compassionate? As you consider your answers, realize that you are already growing in the fruit of the Holy Spirit. Meditate on the list once more and ask God to convict you of the ways you need to grow, asking for grace to cultivate the fruit of the Spirit in your life.

Answers to the sermon notes: IA) 50 & 50, B) rushing or violent wind, C) languages. IIA) wind or breath, B) wind & wind, C) injustice. IIIA) strangely warmed, B) Asbury, C) witness.