



BETHEL  CHURCH
INTERNATIONAL WORSHIP CENTRE

Pentecost

Devotional





Introduction

In a world shaped by hurry, noise, and constant distractions, it is becoming increasingly vital for the Church to reclaim rhythms of rest, reflection, and rededication. This Pentecost Devotional is part of a larger invitation to return—again and again—to a sacred rhythm of spiritual formation anchored in the seasons of Lent, Pentecost, and Advent. Lent leading to Easter invites *repentance*, Pentecost ignites *renewal*, and Advent (Christmas) stirs a *longing and hope*.

While many churches celebrate Easter and Christmas, Pentecost is often overlooked. In the Old Testament, Pentecost was a harvest festival of first fruits; in the New Testament, it marks the moment when the Holy Spirit came to the disciples as they prayed in the upper room. The word “*Pentecost*” means “*fiftieth*,” referring to the 50th day after Jesus’ resurrection (seven Sundays after Easter), and the arrival of the Holy Spirit.

The ten days between the Ascension of Jesus (*May 29, 2025*) and Pentecost Sunday (*June 8, 2025*) are a time of waiting. We’re encouraged to set aside these days to pray with purpose, seeking the same things the disciples did: the guidance, strength, and presence of the Holy Spirit.

May this Pentecost season be a time to reconnect with God, renew your faith, and pray intentionally as you wait for His Spirit.



Come
Holy Spirit,
come and fill me today

Ascension

Acts 1:9, "Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight."

Today marks 40 days since Resurrection Sunday. During this time, Jesus walked with His disciples. He helped them understand Scripture. Gave them instructions. Spoke to them about the kingdom of God.

Can you see them, gathered around Him, hanging onto every word—their hearts still catching up to the miracle of His resurrection? But then... His time had come. Jesus blessed His disciples and was taken up to heaven. It was the Ascension. If you were there, you might have felt your heart ache. Was this a final goodbye?

But for the disciples, Jesus' ascension was not a separation or abandonment. It was a transfer of power. Just as Elisha inherited Elijah's power, Jesus' followers would be empowered by the Holy Spirit to continue His mission and ministry.

This Ascension Thursday, let's take a moment to ponder what the ascension of Jesus means for us.

The ascension affirms that we are not powerless. The risen Jesus is interceding in heaven on our behalf. We have the Holy Spirit—to guide and strengthen us as we fulfil God's mission in the world. And we look forward in hope to the day when Jesus will come again—to rule in all His splendour. What a glorious day that will be!

Additional Reading: Luke 24:50-51, Mark 16:19

May 29th, 2025 (Thursday)

Wait

Luke 24:49, "Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."

Waiting doesn't come naturally to us. We like plans and progress. We want momentum, not margin. But Jesus told the disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the promise of the Father—the baptism of the Holy Spirit. You see, when Jesus said "wait," He wasn't withholding a blessing. He was preparing their hearts to receive it.

So, they waited... for the promise to be fulfilled. But as they waited, they also prayed in one accord.

They didn't know what lay ahead, but prayer strengthened them and kept their hope alive. After a 10-day wait, they received the promised Holy Spirit and the fullness of His power.

Prayer was a #1 priority for the apostles. Their habit of waiting in prayer fortified them for ministry. And it is a habit that will certainly benefit us as well. Prayer is often the method through which God accomplishes His purposes and directs history.

Today, let's consider... *What does our waiting look like? Does it involve praying in faith? Or is it characterised by doubt and impatience?*

Don't despise the waiting. The waiting room is often the birthing room for what God wants to do in and through you. As you wait in prayer, remember that He who promised is faithful.

Additional Reading: Acts 1:4-5, Lamentations 3:25-26

May 30th, 2025 (Friday)

Counselor

John 14:16, "And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever."

In the Gospel of John, the Holy Spirit is referred to as a Counselor. The Greek word Jesus used is *Parakletos*—it means "one who comes alongside to help." Not behind you, shouting orders. Not above you, shaking His head. But beside you, walking with you. A divine Friend who carries the weight with you. Who counsels not with judgment, but with mercy and clarity.

Imagine that! Not a distant advisor, but God Himself, dwelling in your heart, whispering wisdom, nudging you toward truth. It's like having the best coach in the universe, always by your side, cheering you on, steering you right.

Think about it: the same Spirit who hovered over creation, who empowered the apostles, lives in you. That question weighing on your mind? That choice you're afraid to make? You don't have to face it alone. Your Counselor is there, ready to guide, comfort, and strengthen. All He asks is that you listen, pray, and trust His quiet voice.

Take a moment to cherish what a gift it is to have the Holy Spirit as a constant Counselor. He is your ever-present help in time of need. Confess your reliance on the Holy Spirit and be tuned to His voice as He coaches you through your day.

Additional Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:10-12, Isaiah 11:2



Guide

Galatians 5:16, *"So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves."*

The Holy Spirit actively guided the disciples after Jesus' ascension. And He continues to direct us in God's will even today. He gives us the discernment to know what pleases God and helps us do it!

Our sinful nature craves exactly the opposite of what the Spirit desires. Walking by the Spirit is not about trying harder not to sin—but about staying close to Jesus and letting the Holy Spirit shape our thoughts and actions.

It's less about the rules and more about the rhythm of walking with the Spirit—a daily choice to lean into the Spirit and heed the whispers of His voice over the demands of the flesh.

When you are tempted to snap in frustration, the Spirit nudges you into patience. When you are drawn to selfishness, the Spirit leads to generosity. This isn't self-help but surrender to the Holy Spirit—letting Him produce the fruit of the Spirit in our lives.

Take a moment to surrender to the Holy Spirit. Allow Him to direct your decision-making and guide you in right living according to the word of God. Let Him lead you into love and holiness. Receive His wisdom and discernment to develop a Christlike character and be His witness in the world.

Additional Reading: Ezekiel 36:27, Isaiah 30:21



June 1st, 2025 (Sunday)

Truth

John 16:13, "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; He will speak only what He hears, and He will tell you what is yet to come."

In a world of distracting voices and half-truths that promise answers but leave us empty, the Holy Spirit comes along to lead us into all truth. *"Spirit of Truth"* is one of the titles that Jesus used to refer to the Holy Spirit. It is especially significant because Jesus had earlier referred to Himself as the Way, the Truth and the Life.

It is the Holy Spirit who takes *the truths of Christ and applies them to our hearts with power*. When you're tangled in doubt or swayed by the world's lies, the Spirit of truth shines a light, reminding you of Jesus' words and showing you the Savior as the truth Himself. He transforms head knowledge into heart-deep conviction, grounding you in God's story.

Have you been misled by the lies of the enemy? Have the opinions of others clouded your understanding of what is true? Allow the Holy Spirit to help you discern right from wrong, so you can stand firm against any deceptions of the world.

The Holy Spirit reveals the truth of God's Word and empowers you to live it. Let the truth of the gospel of Christ so pervade your inner being, that it positively influences every area of your life.

Additional Reading: John 15:26, 1 Corinthians 2:9-13

Water

John 7:37-38, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them."

It was the Feast of Tabernacles. A sacred celebration. Priests poured water at the base of the altar—a ritual rich in meaning. It pictured a river yet to come. A river the prophets had promised. A stream flowing from the temple, bringing life to dry and weary lands (Ezekiel 47:1–2). And then came Jesus. On the final day of the feast of the Tabernacles, He stood up and spoke words that stirred the soul: *"If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink."*

He wasn't offering ordinary water. He was offering something far greater—the Holy Spirit.

Think of it: a glass of cold water in the heat of the day. That's what the Spirit is to the soul. He refreshes. He revives. He cleanses and brings life where there once was only dust and drought.

To the thirsty, He gives not just a sip—but a stream. A fountain. A river of living water.

Ezekiel saw water flowing from the temple. But now, we are the temple. The Spirit doesn't just visit; He dwells. And His living water flows through us—into homes, into workplaces, into broken hearts and dry lands.

So today, ask Him.

Ask for a fresh filling. A deeper cleansing. A sacred drenching of every barren corner of your soul. And watch as His Spirit turns your dryness into a wellspring of life.

Additional Reading: John 4:13-14, Isaiah 44:3

June 3rd, 2025 (Tuesday)

Fire

Acts 2:3, "They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them."

In Scripture, fire is more than a flame. It's a symbol of God's power, His presence, His purity. Remember the bush that burned but wasn't consumed? That was God, calling Moses by name. Or the pillar of fire that lit up the night sky, guiding weary Israelites through the wilderness? That too was God—present, near and leading.

And then, there was that upper room. A room filled with prayer. Hearts waiting. Hands open. And suddenly—fire again.

But this time, it didn't rest on a mountain. It didn't hover above a tent. It came to them. Tongues of fire, resting on each one. Not just the brave. Not just the worthy. Every believer. *Every heart made ready.*

In the Old Testament, the Spirit came upon a few. A prophet here. A judge there. But Pentecost changed everything. Now the Spirit rests in us. In you. In me.

Submit yourself afresh to the Lord. Ask Him to breathe on you. Allow Him to relight the flame of His Spirit in your life. Let His refining fire burn up every impurity, rekindle your passion for God, and set your heart ablaze to be a living witness of His glory and grace.

Because once the fire falls, *nothing remains the same.*

Additional Reading: Matthew 3:11, Hebrews 12:28-29

June 4th, 2025 (Wednesday)

Wind

Acts 2:2, "Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting."

The wind that swept through that upper room wasn't ordinary. It wasn't from the east or west. It came from heaven. It filled the space. It filled the people. It filled the world with hope.

In the Bible, wind often means breath—'*ruach*' in Hebrew, '*pneuma*' in Greek. The breath of God. The same breath that hovered over the deep in Genesis. The same breath that filled Adam's lungs with life. The same breath Jesus breathed on His disciples when He said, "*Receive the Holy Spirit.*" This was no gentle gust. It was heaven breaking in to ignite the hearts and birth the church.

The wind didn't leave things as it found them. It stirred. It shook. It filled. It moved timid men into bold witnesses. It turned a quiet upper room into the launchpad of a global revival.

And the wind still blows today.

He unsettles what's stale. He breathes life into dry bones. He stirs dreams long buried and fans faith into flame. Let His wind clear out fear, lift up hope, and push you forward into God's purpose.

Do you need a fresh breath of life from the Lord? *Let the wind of the Holy Spirit breathe into your soul.* Just as wind blows away chaff, allow Him to blow away anything that may be hindering your spiritual growth. Let the Holy Spirit regenerate your body, soul and spirit, so you can live in the fullness of His grace.

Additional Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-10, John 20:21-22

June 5th, 2025 (Thursday)

Tongues

Acts 2:4, "All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them."

They had no script. No microphones. No rehearsals.

Just hearts wide open and heaven drawing near.

And then it happened. Tongues—not of their own, but given by God. Words they'd never studied, languages they'd never learned. Suddenly on their lips, flowing freely. Not gibberish, not noise—a *message* in every syllable. The gospel poured out in the native tongues of people gathered from every corner of the known world.

It was more than a miracle of language. It was a miracle of love.

Speaking in tongues is one of the Holy Spirit's gifts—a sacred tool for prayer and praise. It lifts us beyond the limits of words, letting our spirit commune with God in ways deeper than language. It's not about performance. It's about presence. About drawing close to the heart of the Father when words fall short.

If you've been given this gift, use it. Let it deepen your worship. Let it strengthen your prayers. And if you haven't, ask. The Father delights in giving good gifts. Ask for whatever draws you closer to Him and equips you to serve.

Are you feeling unqualified? Unclear? Uncertain? Wondering if God could ever use your voice. Your story. Your tongue.
He can. And He will.

Additional Reading: Acts 2:5-10, 1 Corinthians 12:7-11

June 6th, 2025 (Friday)

Power

Acts 1:8, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

They didn't feel powerful.

They were a small band of believers—more familiar with fishing nets than pulpits, more acquainted with fear than courage. Their Leader (Lord Jesus) had ascended, and now they waited, holding on to one promise: *"You will receive power."*

Not power for show. Not power to control. But power to witness. Power to tell the story of Jesus with boldness, clarity, and love—starting in their neighborhood, then stretching to the nations.

That same power is promised to you.

The Holy Spirit doesn't just visit; He fills. He empowers the shy to speak, the weary to stand, the doubting to believe. He doesn't erase your personality—He ignites your purpose. This power isn't about volume. It's about victory. Over fear. Over sin. Over everything that says, *"You're not enough."*

The same power that raised Jesus from the dead now fuels your witness, shapes your story, and sends you out—not in your strength, but His.

So today, take Him at His word.

Now go—and witness.

Additional Reading: Ephesians 3:16-21, 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

June 7th, 2025 (Saturday)

The Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:38, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Pentecost. The name simply means *"fiftieth."* Fifty days after Passover, faithful Jews gathered in Jerusalem. They came to celebrate the harvest and to remember the day Moses received the law on Mount Sinai. But for the followers of Jesus, this Pentecost was different.

It had been fifty days since the tomb was found empty. Ten days since they watched their risen Lord ascend into the clouds with a promise still echoing: *"You will receive power..."*

And then, it happened.

A wind. A fire. A filling.

The Holy Spirit came—not just upon them, but *within* them. And timid hearts turned bold. Closed doors flew open. Peter preached. Thousands believed. The church was born.

That same Spirit is still moving today.

Peter's words on that first Pentecost weren't just for the crowd that day—they're for us too. *"Repent, and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."*

So today, welcome the Holy Spirit. Let Him fill you, lead you, and transform you—so your life becomes a flame of His love, a vessel of His power, and a witness to His glory in the world.

Day 11
June 8th, 2025 (Sunday)



BETHEL  CHURCH
INTERNATIONAL WORSHIP CENTRE



#67, RING ROAD, HEBBAL,
BANGALORE-560024
24/7 PRAYER LINE:
080-67537777