

ONCE UPON A TIME

talk it
over

KEY SCRIPTURE

Acts 2.1-4

PURSUE GOD

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues [or languages] as the Spirit enabled them.

Many of us come to church and we are bored. We find the entire experience trivial. It's empty, and we walk out feeling no different than how we walked in. We spend much of the morning uninterested in what is going on around us, or we don't quite understand a lot of what the pastor is trying to communicate, or we find it difficult to sing the songs. If we were completely honest sometimes we show up just to stay on God's "good side" or so He doesn't get mad at us. Church is just that thing we do on Sundays. It can be easy to grow weary. It can be easy to feel unfulfilled. Especially when we were designed for so much more. But perhaps the reason we feel bored is because we're relying too much on the excitement or stimulation of an experience, and not enough on the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. We have grown accustomed to the mundane church routine, and we miss the miracle of His presence.

And the day of Pentecost was the miracle.

On the Day of Pentecost many believers were gathered together. It had been 50 days since anyone had seen the resurrected Jesus. Almost two months had passed and many were wondering, what's next. Where do we go from here? How do we carry on knowing what we know? Jesus had told them there would be another who would come. A Helper. He had said they would receive power when the Holy Spirit comes, and that they would be His witnesses to the world. But here they were. Waiting. Watching. Gathering together, praying, wrestling with their doubts, and still heaven was silent. What they didn't anticipate was the miracle that took place on day 50. What they didn't prepare for was the kind of power that would fill them and enable them to actually be Jesus' witnesses to people of all walks of life. The Holy Spirit coming and fulfilling the promise of God by dwelling in the hearts of those who believe and carry His Name. The miracle was always on the way. And sometimes waiting is the hardest thing we have to do. But waiting is never wasted when we are waiting on Jesus.

LOVE LIFE

How do you view the Holy Spirit in your life?