

Growth Group Questions

Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2024

Introduction

On Pentecost Sunday we talk more about the Holy Spirit than we do for much of the rest of the year, even though his work is vital to our salvation. Discuss what work we usually ascribe to the Spirit and why his part in the Trinity's work is just as important as the work of the Father and the Son.

Into the Word – Ezekiel 37:1-14

1. Bible history time! Ezekiel lived at the time of Israel's exile. What do you remember about the exile? When? Why? Under whom? How long? How it ended?
2. The bones were dry. How does that characterize the people of Ezekiel's time? How about our time? How about us?
3. What too was used to restore life to the dead bones? Read verses 13-14. What does resurrection show us?

Into the Word – Acts 2:1-21

4. We read this text every year, but the other readings change. How do the Ezekiel and John texts connect to Pentecost?
5. Pentecost was a day of miracles. List them. What was the greatest miracle though? (Read Acts 2:40-41.)
6. Peter quotes Joel 2:28-32 and tells the crowd that this day is a fulfillment of Joel's prophecy. What Day was Joel prophesying

about and how does Peter's sermon help us understand the "timing" of the End Times?

7. BONUS QUESTION: Extra credit to anyone who knows the term "eschatology" and can use it in a sentence! Google it!
8. What does it mean to you that you have the Spirit poured out on you? How do we exercise the same power of the Spirit?

Into the Word – John 15:26-27; 16:4b-11

9. Verses 26-27 describe the Spirit's purpose AND ours. Explain.
10. We sometimes wish that Jesus would speak to us directly to give us direction, calm our doubts, or lead us. But this text shows us why he doesn't, and why that's good for us. Explain Jesus' words in verses 7-8.
11. In what way has the Spirit already "proven the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment" (v. 8)?
HINT: use verses 9-11 to find the answer.
 - About sin
 - About righteousness
 - About judgment

Closing Prayer

Holy Spirit, we thank you once again for your "quiet" work of sanctification, faith, and comfort. Thank you for showing us our Savior Jesus, and continue to live in us and guide us daily. Amen.