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| **SERMON NOTES Sunday 31st May** |
|  **SunnySide** |

**Bible passage: Acts 2.1-21**

**Introduction**

* Celebrating Pentecost – when God sent the Holy Spirit

**The birthday of the Church**

* Thousands of people heard the good news of Jesus and many believed and were baptised

**God’s gifts to each believer**

* His love
* The Bible
* The big family of God
* The Holy Spirit

**The Holy Spirit**

* Gives us the power to shine from the inside out
* Helps us to point people towards God who loves them
* Helps us to tell people about the good news of Jesus
* Helps us to build God’s kingdom here on earth

Consider using these words from Build Your Kingdom Here as a prayer this week.

Come set Your rule and reign in our hearts again.
Increase in us we pray, unveil why we're made.
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope,

like wildfire in our very souls.
Holy Spirit come invade us now.
We are your Church and we need your power in us.

**Some questions for discussion**

1. Imagine being in the house with the disciples when the violent wind came and then the tongues of fire. How do you think you would have reacted?
2. Read Acts 2.1-21, try to imagine being there as an onlooker, one of the visitors. How would you have felt?
3. When Peter speaks to the crowd he quotes from the book of Joel. Are there bits of the Bible that you have found helpful to use when speaking to others about your faith?
4. Spend some time thinking about each of the gifts from God mentioned in the notes. How have you experienced those gifts in your life?
5. As part of the worldwide big family of God, we are called to pray for one another. Are there specific people or situations you feel called to pray for at the moment?
6. Today is the end of Thy Kingdom Come. It has been very different this year. Were there particular things you found helpful?

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.

Acts 1.8

Why not spend some time this week praising God for the gift of the Holy Spirit and the joy of being part of the big family of God.

Revd Hilary Kemp