



Hednesford
Salvation Army
Corps and Community Centre

Give Us a "P"!

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All-Age Worship / Mission; Love; Church: Nature; Holy Spirit; Pentecost; Peace; Power;
Purpose / Acts 2:1-13

Peace, Power and Purpose Through the Holy Spirit

Objective

Every Christian can offer the world peace through the pentecostal power and purpose of the Holy Spirit.

A Violent World

From world events, to terrorism, to social media, to family situations, peace appears to be severely lacking.

Today, we celebrate Pentecost:

Acts 2:1-13, p.1093

The Gift of Peace

We don't usually associate Pentecost with peace. But to fully understand the events at Pentecost, we have to go back to the passage from John 20 that we heard earlier. Jesus appeared in the room and spoke to his followers:

John 20:21 NIV

²¹ Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

No doubt, many of the disciples saw it as a signal that Jesus' promise of a few days earlier was being fulfilled:

John 14:27 NIV

²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.



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Jesus goes on to give them the gift of the Holy Spirit:

John 20:22 NIV

²² And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

Both of these gifts – of peace, and of the Holy Spirit – are found during the events of Pentecost a few weeks later.

Each one of us has a part to play in living peaceably with others.

The Gift of Power

The disciples recognised that what they needed was some power, and that’s exactly what they got Pentecost. The power given to the disciples on that first Pentecost and extended to us is a divine power. The power of the Holy Spirit is clearly an inward experience:

Acts 2:4 NIV

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

Pentecost brought the church a new power for witness, just as Jesus predicted:

Acts 1:8 NIV

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.”

This power the followers of Jesus received from the Holy Spirit changed their lives. It has the power to change our lives too.

The Gift of Purpose

He wanted the disciples to bring peace to the world, and peace to all situations. Jesus also said that the purpose of the Holy Spirit was to help the disciples forgive others. The Holy Spirit’s purpose after Pentecost, was to help those who believed in Jesus to share their faith with others. His disciples should follow the same purpose as Jesus had:

John 3:16 NIV

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

As followers of Jesus, we can see what the Holy Spirit does, and allow God to help us through the Holy Spirit. Who will you take the Pentecostal power to this week?