



SESSION 11: The Story Continues

**God With Us: Pentecost to the
Return of Christ**

Session 11: God With Us: New Creation – Pentecost/Church/Return of Jesus

Key takeaways for Pre-Disciples:

- By the coming of the Holy Spirit, God has come to make his home in humanity. In the same way that the God's Spirit made his home in Jesus so the God's Spirit now makes his home in Jesus' people so that we can know a restored relationship with God the Father our creator
- This coming of the Spirit, empowered the followers of Jesus to take this message of God restoring all creation through His Son, the promised King, until the day that he returns to make everything new.

Part 1

identity

worship

mission

Part 1: catch up

- Icebreaker question – Get everyone to share about how their week has gone, what has been happening in their life in the past 7 days. Listen out for things you could pray for.
- Ask everyone how they got on sharing the story
 - (this is not to keep tabs on people, but is a helpful reminder that part of them learning the story well is you asking them every week if they managed to share it.)
- Ask someone to re-tell last week's story

Part 2 (story)

identity

community

mission

Pentecost and Return: (Acts 2: 1-42, Revelation 22)

*So After Jesus went be with God his Father, **his followers stayed in city Jerusalem**. And they met every day in a large upper room praying and worshipping God, and **waiting for the coming of God's Spirit**. Now during this time, there was a great festival in the city and Jewish people from all over the known world gathered together in the city. On the main day of the festival, **as the disciples prayed, suddenly there was a sound like huge windstorm blowing through the room, and something like flames appeared and rested on every one of the disciples, and they were all filled with God's Spirit and began singing and praising God in multiple different languages.***



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It was so loud that the people outside who had travelled from different countries for the festival, could hear the disciples praising God in their own language. Many were amazed, asking 'what does this mean?' But others just thought they must be drunk.

*At that moment **Peter shouted to the crowd**, 'my brothers and sisters, these people are not drunk, **what you are seeing is what the prophets predicted would happen, God has sent his Spirit upon all of us as he did on Jesus who even though you put him to death, and he was buried, God has raised him back to life, demonstrating once and for all that this Jesus, whom you put to death, truly is the promised king of the world that we have been waiting for.***

*Now when the crowd heard Peter, **his words cut through to their hearts**, and they said 'what shall we do?' Peter replied '**you must turn your back on your old life of disobedience and turn to God and be baptised in the name of Jesus. You will be forgiven and you will receive this promised gift of God's spirit, which is for you and your families and everyone who responds to God's call.**' After Peter said these words 3,000 people believed and were baptised in the name Jesus and joined this community of disciples. **And this wasn't just any community, God lived in these people, and His Spirit empowered them to love one another as family and take the message of good news, from Jerusalem out to many nations across the world, and this was the beginning of the church, and today followers Jesus continue to gather together and take care of one another and share this wonderful news that Jesus is God's king, and he died for all our disobedience and brokenness, but God raised him from the dead and now through him and through His spirit everyone everyway can know a restored relationship back with God. And One Day, Jesus will return as king, and he will destroy evil and death forever, and the world will be healed and made new and there will be no more suffering and brokenness. God will wipe away every tear from our eyes and He will live with his people forever.***

Story-Audio-Link: <https://christ-central.org.uk/pre-disciple/>

And that's the story from God's word

Re-tell the story as group: allow everyone to share a section of the story. If there is more than 6 people consider breaking up into pairs to retell the story.

Questions for discussion

1. What do you like about this story/What stood out to you?
2. What bothered you about this story?
3. What does this story show you about God?
4. What does this story show you about people?



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Part 3 (practice / takeaways)

identity

worship

mission

Ask the remaining questions:

5. What does this story mean for your life? How will you live your life differently having learned this story?
6. How will you remember this story? (tell it!)
7. Who are you able to tell this story to?

What is your response?

You have now gone through the Good News of God and how in Jesus his Son, He is reconciling humanity and creation to himself. How will you respond to Jesus? Do you want to know a restored relationship with God? Do you have more questions? Where do we go from here? Do you want to receive the gift of God's Spirit to live within you?

It is really vital that in leading people through the stories, you are able to take a moment to ask how people would like to respond to what they've heard.

Some may want to ask more questions, some may want to respond there to Jesus in that moment. If so, be ready for it, and be ready to pray with them and help lead them in responding to God. –See notes on Session 1 –

Other resources

- 1.) A helpful video on the Holy Spirit - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oNNZO9i1Gjc>



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Feedback from Group Leader

In our vision for discipleship, we have identified 4 key ingredients to healthy and growing disciples. As you are leading your group, for each session, make some notes under each heading for how the group is faring in each of these areas .

identity

worship

community

mission