



Pentecost

20th Confirmation Class Handout

Matthew 28 – The Great Commission: 18 After his resurrection, Jesus appeared and said to the disciples, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Luke 24 – Jesus' Ascension: 46 ...And Jesus said to the disciples, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things. 49 And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." 50 Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. 51 While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. 52 And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; 53 and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Acts 2 Pentecost (from The Message – edited for clarity and length): 1 When the day of Pentecost came, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot along with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as Jesus' brothers 2 were all together in one place and were constantly devoting themselves to prayer. 3 Then suddenly from the sky there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. The Holy Spirit was with them and spread among them like wild fire. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

5 Now there were spiritual Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem. 6 And at this sound of the wind the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard the disciples speaking in the native language of each. 7 Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking ignorant Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power in our own native language?"

12 All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" 13 But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

41 Others, however, by the end of the day, decided to join the disciples. 3000 joined that day.

Notes:

1. Pentecost is Greek for 50. Meaning 50 days from the Last Supper. Tradition has it that Jesus ascended 40 days after his resurrection. This means there were probably about 7 days the disciples stayed together and prayed after the Ascension.

2. Pentecost is known as the birth of the church. The Greek word that we use the word *Church* for is *ecclesia*, the Hebrew word is *kahal*. Both words simply mean "an assembly."

3. "Disciple" means "student" and "apostle" means "sent out." The disciples "graduate" to apostles in the "Great Commission" passage.

CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK: What do you think the Church is? What do you think the Church is supposed to do? Do you think the Church is doing what it is supposed to do? What do you think is your role in the church?