

PENTECOST METHODIST CHURCH

LIVE-IT-OUT GUIDE

Sermon Date: 02/05/2021

Text(s): Hebrews 6:1–2

Sermon Title: Doctrine of Baptisms (2) – Holy Spirit

Preacher: Rev Dr Jonathan Seet

(The sermon recording is available in the PMC website and MyPMC App)

READ (5 mins)

Hebrews 6:1–2 (NKJV)

1 Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary *principles* of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,

2 of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

RELATE (30 mins)

(Relate to what was shared and on key themes in the sermon)

- 1. When did you last receive teaching on who is the Holy Spirit? Maybe it was during a Baptism & Membership Class. Do you remember a few points from that teaching?**
- 2. John the Baptist prophesied that the day would come when Jesus would baptize God's people with the Holy Spirit (Luke 3:16). Jesus said to His disciples that they were to remain in Jerusalem that they would be baptized with the Holy Spirit (Luke 24:49 and Acts 1:4–5). The preacher said that the baptism of the Holy Spirit is clearly in the Bible, that it is not an invention by some theologians and that Jesus is the baptizer of the Holy Spirit. Why do you think he needed to point out specifically that the baptism of the Holy Spirit is "not an invention by some theologians"?**
- 3. The preacher shared his personal experience at the age of 16. He received the baptism of the Holy Spirit during a Youth Meeting and began speaking in tongues. It transformed his prayer time and his relationship with the Lord Jesus! But the leaders in his bible study group told him that the tongues he experienced came either from his own emotions or from the devil. He became afraid and asked God to take it away, and immediately his spiritual life became dry. Can you relate to the preacher's experience? Are you afraid of receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit and of speaking in tongues, fearing that you could come under the devil's bondage?**

REFLECT (30 mins)

(Reflect and apply God's word to our daily lives)

1. Let's read Act 1:8 out loud together.

Acts 1:8 (NIV84)

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."

There is a process in this verse. First, you wait for the Holy Spirit to come upon you. Second, you receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. Third, you become witnesses of Christ. What might happen if we cut short this process? What if we don't wait for the Holy Spirit to come upon us before going out to witness for Christ?

2. Now let's read John 20:19–23 aloud together.

John 20:19–23 (NIV84)

19 On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, **"Peace be with you!"**

20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

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

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

23 If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

The preacher explained that the disciples received the Holy Spirit INTO them when Jesus breathed on them as seen in John 20. But the Holy Spirit came UPON the disciples on the day of Pentecost as seen in Acts 2. Sometimes we hear Christians ask the question, "Why must God take two steps in giving His Holy Spirit and power to the disciples? Couldn't He had done it in one step?" What do you remember from the sermon of how the preacher illustrated this two-step process?

REST (15 mins)

(Take time to share and pray for one another)

(Pray for our church, our nation, and our world. See **MyPMC > PRAY** for the monthly guide)

- Pray for one another to have a deeper encounter with the Holy Spirit, to have an open heart to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit and the gift of speaking in tongues.
- *Pray for our church to be a people full of the Holy Spirit, demonstrated in being empowered to be witnesses for the Lord, functioning in the power of the Holy Spirit.*
- Pray for the MCS to continue to be strong and stable, able to meet needs in Singapore, and stand out as a true witness of Christ Jesus.