

PENTECOST METHODIST CHURCH

LIVE-IT-OUT GUIDE

Sermon Date: 22/08/2021

Text(s): 1 Thessalonians 1-10 (NLT)

Sermon Title: Power Of The Holy Spirit

Preacher: Rev Collin See

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

READ (5 mins)

1 Thessalonians 1-10 (NLT)

This letter is from Paul, Silas and Timothy. We are writing to the church in Thessalonica, to you who belong to God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. May God give you grace and peace.

The Faith of the Thessalonian Believers

²We always thank God for all of you and pray for you constantly. ³As we pray to our God and Father about you, we think of your faithful work, your loving deeds, and the enduring hope you have because of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴We know, dear brothers and sisters, that God loves you and has chosen you to be his own people. ⁵For when we brought you the Good News, it was not only with words but also with power, for the Holy Spirit gave you full assurance that what we said was true. And you know of our concern for you from the way we lived when we were with you. ⁶So you received the message with joy from the Holy Spirit in spite of the severe suffering it brought you. In this way, you imitated both us and the Lord. ⁷As a result, you have become an example to all the believers in Greece—throughout both Macedonia and Achaia.

⁸And now the word of the Lord is ringing out from you to people everywhere, even beyond Macedonia and Achaia, for wherever we go we find people telling us about your faith in God. We don't need to tell them about it, ⁹for they keep talking about the wonderful welcome you gave us and how you turned away from idols to serve the living and true God. ¹⁰And they speak of how you are looking forward to the coming of God's Son from heaven—Jesus, whom God raised from the dead. He is the one who has rescued us from the terrors of the coming judgment.

RELATE (30 mins)

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

This week's sermon touched on the assurance given by Paul to those in Thessalonica and the power of the Holy Spirit which underlined the authority of the WORD shared with them earlier and transformation of the believers' lives as a result.

- 1. Recall an instance where you shared or planned to share the gospel with pre-believers. What was the experience like? What motivated you to share the gospel or what prevented you from sharing the gospel?**

- 2. Paul also pointed to the fact the believers had the full assurance of salvation because the conviction of sins and repentance was only possible due to the work of the Holy Spirit. One such evidence of the power of the Holy Spirit at work was mentioned in verse 1 Thess 6-7. They received joy from the Holy Spirit in spite of the severe suffering brought about by their conversion.**

⁶So you received the message with joy from the Holy Spirit in spite of the severe suffering it brought you. In this way, you imitated both us and the Lord. ⁷As a result, you have become an example to all the believers in Greece—throughout both Macedonia and Achaia.

Genuine faith and maturity in our spiritual life in Christ would results in having joy and peace and our lives regardless of the circumstances we may be in.

Do you agree with the above statement? How are you able to achieve such peace and joy in spite of the various situations we find ourselves in?

- 3. The preacher also said when the power of the Holy Spirit is in us, it will help us to be imitator of Christ. In order words, we shall be transformed to be more and more like Christ!**

What are some characteristic or results of us becoming imitators of Christ or more like Christ?

REFLECT (30 mins)

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

1. As we wait for Christ, let us continue to live as a child of God.

What are some of the following key characteristics of being imitators of Christ we need to embrace and live out in our lives more boldly ?

- a) Contagious faith. Their faith and works cannot be contained and will spread. They constantly point others to God by their words and deeds
- b) Power to turn away from idolatry or sins
- c) Genuine hospitality. Compassionate and seek to welcome and provide help to people in needs even at great inconvenience, risks or costs to oneself.

2. Are we ready to receive Christ if He were to come back again anytime now? What do need to do so that we are ready to receive Christ back with great joy (like seeing a long-awaited close friend or love ones)?

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)

- Praise God for the unconditional love and salvation for mankind. Pray for one another that we hold true to the gospel, and to have the love and compassion of our Lord for the losts.
- *Pray for our church to be a people that seek to be hospitable to the people who are in need and being a channel of blessings with unconditional love of God.*
- 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 Jesus Christ, especially in areas of social justices. Salt and light to the nation and nations around us.