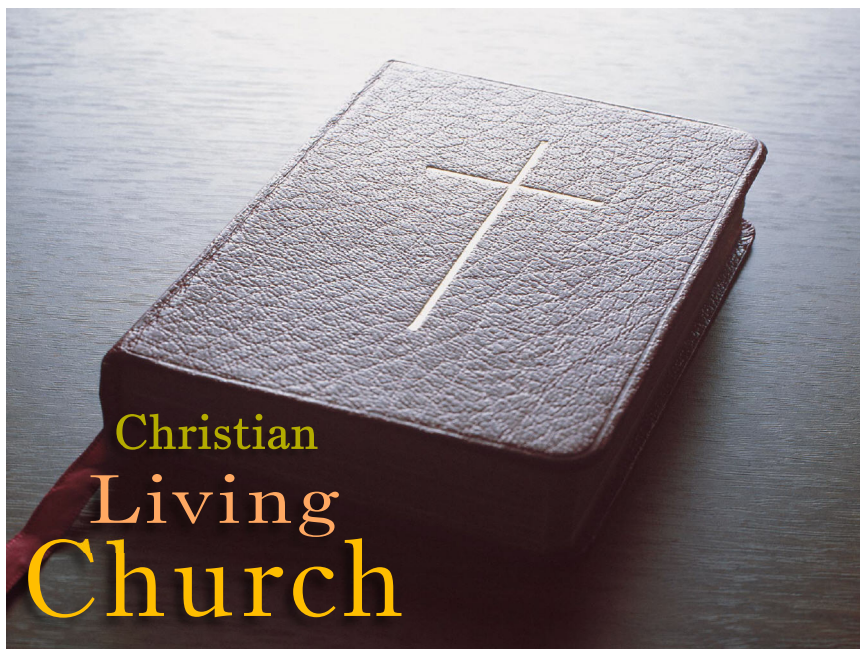


LESSON 15

Pentecost

“...if any man have not the Spirit of Christ,
he is none of his.”



Christian
Living
Church

Pentecost



This series of lessons has been designed for private study or classroom presentation. The purpose of this foreword is to explain certain conventions utilized throughout the program. The overall concept is to begin with the basic concepts necessary for the new convert to understand and progress toward more complex doctrine. The lessons are numbered in order to maintain the proper sequence of study.

When Scripture references are encountered in the text, various actions are recommended. When in parenthetical bold (**Genesis 1:1**) the verse is to be looked up and read right away. Frequently, the next textual statement will comment on that verse. Reading verse and text in proper order will enhance one's understanding of the verse. Direct quotes from Scripture will be "*bold italicized and contained in quotation marks*" and, unless otherwise noted, will be from the King James Bible. When the reference is in parenthetical non-bold (Genesis 1:1) it is to provide the Scriptural basis for the statement if confirmation is desired. References in blue [Genesis 1:1](#) will be listed in the lesson section entitled **FURTHER STUDY**.

FURTHER STUDY is the "homework" section. Its purpose is to encourage Bible study at home. The referenced verses have a short summation to assist the student desiring more knowledge about a subject to find what they are looking for.

The **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS** section is primarily for classroom use. Open discussion with the exchange of ideas produces growth for all involved. Most of the time the answer is contained in the referenced Scripture but sometimes the question is offered for open discussion. Even in private Bible study, analysis of the question and the search for its answer can be rewarding.

This work is offered to anyone with a desire to better understand God's Word. It is our hope and prayer that the person studying these lessons will come away with a better understanding of God's will and a closer walk with our Lord, Jesus Christ.

With Loving Concern for all those seeking God's Message
The Church of God Rocky Mount
Rocky Mount, Virginia

Key Verse: Romans 8:9



“...if any man have not the Spirit of Christ,
he is none of his.”

Discussion Question: What does this Key Verse mean to you?

God has a Master Plan pictured by seven annual festivals.

The first festival is Passover. It pictures the Messiah--Christ--who volunteered before the foundation of the world to be slain as the Passover Lamb, the Savior of the world.

The second festival, the Feast of Unleavened Bread, pictures overcoming sin. But how do we overcome sin? Is it by our own strength and willpower? Could Jesus do any spiritual works, including obedience to God, with just His human strength? (John 5:30; 8:28). Where did He get the necessary power? (John 14:10).

The Father “dwelt” in Jesus through the Holy Spirit! Did Christ promise the same spiritual help to His disciples? (John 14:16). What is the “Comforter”? (John 14:26). Does Christ, through the Holy Spirit, live in His followers today?

(Romans 8:9-10; Colossians 1:27; I John 3:24).

The day of Pentecost is the day the Holy Spirit became available to all of mankind. To all who would repent of their sin (sin is the breaking of God’s law - 1 John 3:4) and would accept Jesus Christ as their personal savior. Notice what Christ had told his disciples before this day came, **“But you shall receive power, after that the Holy Spirit has come upon you...”** (Acts 1:8). Then Peter said unto them, **“Repent and be baptized every one of you in**

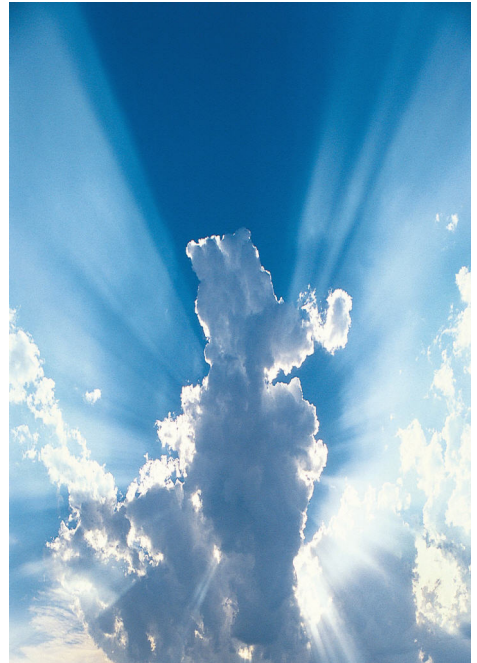
Pentecost



the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” (Acts 2:38).

Notice what the Bible says about the natural way we are, which is - void of the Holy Spirit, “... *the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.*” (Romans 8:7) Have you ever noticed how many religious people believe and talk against the law of God as if it were a bad thing? This scripture seems to imply that the natural man, void of the Holy Spirit of God, cannot bring himself to appreciate the law of God. It is only by receiving the Spirit of God that we can come to appreciate and understand the law of God. The law is the very standard by which your life can be transformed for the better and obedience is the key that allows God to work through your life.

The Holy Spirit is the very power of God, without it - it is impossible to please Him. Notice, “...*Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His.*” (Romans 8:9). This is the distinguished mark of a real Christian. There is nothing more critical than receiving the Spirit of God. It is the very enabling power of God that can transform your life. It is God’s helping hand in times of need.



Pentecost

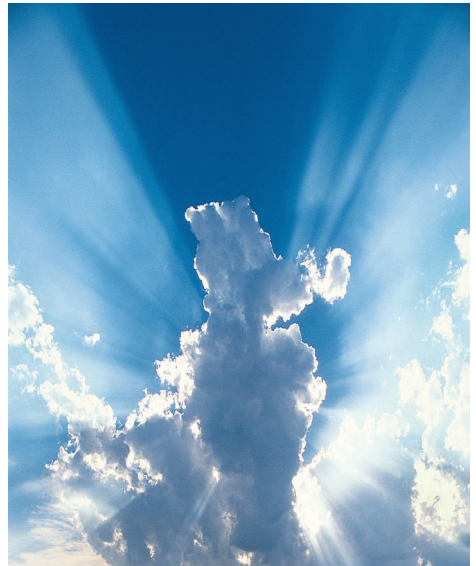


There is a definite "way" to receive the Spirit of God. Confession is not enough, going down to the altar is not enough, belief is not enough. There must be willingness to unconditionally surrender your will to Him. Notice what **Acts 5:32** says about obedience being necessary to receive the Spirit of God.

To have the Spirit of God is to receive a very part of the mind of God, the power of God (1 Corinthians 2:14-16). The Holy Spirit is the power that can transform your life.

Pentecost also represents the first fruits of God's harvest. The very word firstfruits implies that there will be another harvest later. Jesus said plainly, ***"No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him"*** (John 6:44). Comparatively speaking, God has been drawing only a few in this age, but for a great purpose.

Those now called are part of God's spiritual firstfruits--the first group to be offered salvation. Those now called have been called first--for the special PURPOSE of being prepared for God's Kingdom! God's firstfruits will become Christ's ruling and teaching assistants, helping teach the true way to salvation to everyone in the world tomorrow. They have been called for the special service of preparing to eventually help bring the knowledge of salvation to the vast majority!



Pentecost



Discussion Questions:

1. What defines whether one is a member of God's Church and part of the spiritual firstfruits? **Romans 8:9, 11, 16**

2. On what day was the first of the firstfruits wave offering made? **Leviticus 23:11**

3. Are Spirit-begotten Christians the Firstfruits of God's Master Plan of salvation? **James 1:18**

Pentecost



4. Is it necessary to obey God to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit? **Acts 5:32**

5. Did Jesus obey God, and does He expect Christians to obey Him today? **John 15:10**

6. If you were dealing with a friend whose life was just not working, what would be the most important thing you would want to tell him?

FOR FURTHER STUDY:

For a more in depth study of this annual Holy Day see Lesson 3 of the Holy Day Series.

CHURCH OF GOD ROCKY MOUNT

27 Brookledge Lane
Rocky Mount, VA 24151

Phone: 1-888-898-7698

www.cogrm.com