

FIRST things FIRST...

Daily Devotions May 18-24, 2026

Devotions are to use in your Quiet Time with the Lord and are designed to prepare you for the sermon next Sunday.

Monday, May 18th

Scripture: Zechariah 4:6 & Acts 2:1-21

Pentecost starts with a group of everyday believers. Waiting, praying, and not sure what God would do next. Then suddenly, the Holy Spirit fills the room like rushing wind and flames of fire, giving them the ability to speak languages they never learned. Zechariah's words ring true: "Not by might, not by power, but by My Spirit," says the Lord. God doesn't wait for us to be impressive or strong. The Spirit gives us what we could never produce on our own. Courage where we were afraid, clarity where we were confused, and boldness where we felt timid.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, fill me again.

Tuesday, May 19th

Scripture: Ephesians 4:3-4 & Acts 2:1-21

People from every nation heard the disciples speaking in their own languages. Pentecost reverses what happened at Babel by creating unity through the Spirit. Paul later urges believers to "work hard to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." Unity isn't something we create by ourselves. It's something the Spirit gives. Our job is to protect it, nurture it, and refuse to let smaller issues break apart what God has brought together. Where the Spirit is present, unity becomes possible. Where the Spirit moves, walls fall and bridges form.

Prayer: Spirit of unity, hold us together in Your peace.

Wednesday, May 20th

Scripture: Jeremiah 1:6-9 & Acts 2:1-21

When the Spirit came, the disciples began speaking languages they had never studied. The miracle wasn't only language, it was about mission. God helped His people speak His message in ways others could understand. Jeremiah once said he was too young to speak, but God touched his mouth and gave him His words. Pentecost reminds us that God equips us for the message He calls us to share. You may feel unqualified or unsure of what to say, but the Spirit is an expert at empowering voices. He gives words, courage, and clarity. When God calls you to speak, He also equips you to speak.

Prayer: Lord, touch my mouth and fill my words with Your Spirit.

Thursday, May 21st

Scripture: Joel 2:28-29 & Acts 2:1-21

God pouring out His Spirit on all people; young and old, men and women, those with status, and those without. The Spirit breaks apart every category we use to limit who God can use. Pentecost declares that no one is too young, too old, too ordinary, too broken, or too unlikely to be filled with God's Spirit. The Spirit gives gifts to all believers, not just a select few. Dreams, visions, prophecy, and courage are poured out on everyone who calls on the Lord. The Spirit is not limited by our expectations. He moves where He chooses and empowers whom He chooses.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, pour Yourself out on me.

Friday, May 22nd

Scripture: 2 Timothy 1:7 & Acts 2:1-21

Just weeks before Pentecost, the disciples hid behind locked doors in fear. But when the Spirit filled them, they stood in the streets and boldly shared the gospel. Paul later reminds Timothy that God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and self-discipline. The Spirit doesn't remove every challenge. He changes us in the middle of them. He gives courage where fear once ruled, clarity where confusion lived, and conviction where hesitation used to be. The same Spirit who strengthened Peter is the Spirit who strengthens you today.

Prayer: Spirit of power, push out my fear. Fill me with courage, love, and clarity as I follow Your leading.

Saturday, May 23rd

Scripture: Revelation 21:3-5 & Acts 2:1-21

Peter ends his sermon with a promise: "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Pentecost is more than a moment. It is a bold vision of what is to come. Revelation describes a day when God will live with His people, wipe away every tear, and make all things new. Pentecost is the start of that future. Heaven touching earth, God living with His people, the Spirit renewing hearts and communities. The church becomes a sign pointing toward the world God is creating. Every act of love, every word of hope, every Spirit-led witness becomes a glimpse of God's coming kingdom. Pentecost is both a gift and a calling. It reminds us that God is making all things new and that we get to be part of it.

Prayer: Lord, make my life a sign of Your coming kingdom.

Sunday, May 24, 2026

PENTECOST Title: Released

Scripture: Acts 2:1-21

Worship at 10:00am

Pastor Clint Phillips