

The Indwelling

Receive the Holy Spirit.

JOHN 20:22

Written by Bill Perkins

And He breathed on them and said,
“Receive the Holy Spirit.”
John 20:22

They were waiting,
and something waited for them.
Holding onto Jesus’ last words—
“You will receive power
when the Holy Spirit comes upon you.”
They only knew
He told them to stay,
to wait.

Nothing Jesus told them
softened the shock of that moment.
God had dwelt in the tabernacle.
And in the temple.
He had given His Spirit to men and women—
but only for a task,
only for a time.
Then the Spirit would lift.

But in that room,
with the 120 disciples,
the Holy Spirit didn’t slip in quietly
or move silently through the room.
He came with power—
the power Jesus promised,
the presence He spoke of,
the Spirit filling His people
to live the life
they could never live alone.

The Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead
now lives in all who belong to Him.

Pentecost wasn't the disciples
rising to the moment.
It wasn't their boldness
or resolve.
It was God keeping His promise—
His presence,
His power,
His Spirit
living within His own.

Where am I relying on my own strength
instead of the Spirit
who lives within me?

What This Means to Me:
Pentecost reminds me
that God never meant for me
to follow Jesus in my own power.
The Spirit who filled those first disciples
lives in me today.
I don't have to manufacture strength.
I don't have to pretend I'm enough.
The power I need
is already within me—
because He is.

Father, thank You
for keeping Your promise.
Thank You
for giving Your Spirit
to Your own.
Teach me to trust His presence
and follow His leading.
Strengthen me where I am weak.
Make me aware of Him today.
In the name of Jesus, amen.