Series Pentecost Sunday 31-May-2020 Date The Promise (Luke 24:49) Ps John Koe Topic Speaker

WELCOME [15 min]

You may want to look up the following websites for icebreakers suitable for your cell.

Ice Breakers 1 Ice Breakers 2

WORSHIP [15 min]

You may select songs like

- 1. Come Holy Spirit
- 2. Here As In Heaven

WORD [45 min]

Spiritual Objectives

At the end of the sermon discussion, cell members will:

- 1. Endeavor to live a Spirit-filled life by following God's example given in Ephesians 5:1-
- 2. Boldly witness for Christ and be a blessing to those around us.

Sermon Summary

The following are the key points of the sermon:

- 1. The Holy Spirit was sent by God to be our divine helper for all of our days.
- 2. The Holy Spirit equips and empowers us to thrive in this "new normal" COVID-19 changed how we live, work and do things. It is impossible to return to the time before COVID-19 happens.
- 3. This is the opportune moment to share the gospel and the Holy Spirit enables us to powerfully witness for Christ.

Sermon Recap (Full Summary)

The current Coronavirus situation is another sign of the end-time global shaking that Scripture has forewarned us about in Hebrews 12:26-29 and Luke 21:10-11, 25-26. It has plunged us all into the "new normal."

Similarly, before Jesus was crucified, He promised the disciples the gift of the Holy Spirit, who came upon them 50 days later at Pentecost, empowering them to live triumphant lives in the "new normal" - the Church Age. Let us also receive the infilling of the Holy Spirit this Pentecost that we might be empowered and equipped to live triumphant lives in this "new normal" when we can powerfully witness for Christ too.



The promise of the Holy Spirit

- 1) The Holy Spirit will be our Divine Helper for all our days (John 14:16)
- 2) The Holy Spirit guides believers into all truths (John 16:13)
- 3) The Holy Spirit enables us to pray accurately and powerfully in the perfect will of God (Romans 8:26-27)
- 4) The Holy Spirit helps believers overcome sins (Romans 8:13)

How can the Holy Spirit help us to thrive in this "new normal"? (Luke 24:49)

- The Holy Spirit will navigate and help us in the way forward. We need God's wisdom in the days ahead.
- We lay hold of the fullness of this promise, that we may be empowered and equipped for the times ahead, not only to survive, but to thrive so that we can be a channel of God's blessings to others, that they may come to know Him.
- We need not fear as the Holy Spirit has been given to us to help us especially in times of uncertainty and shaking.
- The enablement of the Holy Spirit is the enablement to share Christ powerfully and effectively with the world around us (Acts 1:8). When times are challenging, that is when the world will be stirred to realise their need for God and salvation. Troubled times awaken man's innate cry and need for God their Creator.

Discussion Questions

1. Recall back to a time in your life when the Holy Spirit has helped you to make the right decision or take the right action that led you out from trouble or strife. Share with the cell. (Recap) [15 min]

Leader's Notes:

This gives members an opportunity to recall how the Holy Spirit has helped them before in their lives and how important it is to be guided by the Spirit. Encourage them to share. If some members (or new believers) are not able to recall such an instance, be sensitive and do not force them. Just listening from the testimony of the others will give all a sense of the Holy Spirit's power and leading.

<u>Transition (Wrapping Up & Moving To The Next Question)</u>

The Holy Spirit is indeed our Helper in life. If we are constantly filled with the Spirit, we can live victoriously and overcome fear in spite of the situation - We will thrive and not just survive! Therefore, it is important to know how to live a Spirit-filled life.

2. Read Ephesians 5:1-21. How do we be continuously filled with the Holy Spirit and live a Spirit-filled life? (Relate, Reflect) [15 min]

<u>Leader's Notes:</u>

Ephesians 5:1-21 provides a quide to living - by following God's example that corresponds with how the Holy Spirit helps us.

Get members to compare Ephesians 5:1-21 with the points given by Ps John on how the Holy Spirit equips and empowers us:

- As Divine Helper to all believers, brings us supernatural help all the days of our
- Guides believers into all truths



- Enables believers to pray accurately and powerfully in the perfect will of God
- Helps believers to overcome sin.

Transition (Wrapping Up & Moving to the Next Question)

As we learn to walk in the promise of Jesus and live a Spirit-filled life, we will be empowered to boldly witness for Christ (next question).

3. The infilling of the Holy Spirit is to empower the believer to witness (Acts 1:4, 8). Think of one person that you can reach out to walk alongside during this "new normal". Share this with the cell. (Response) [15 min]

Leader's Notes:

This pandemic has given us an opportunity to witness for Christ as troubled times awaken man's inner cry for God their Saviour. Think of how you can bear witness to God, not only through the gospel, but also:

- Through your disposition towards the "new normal": joy, hope, peace and fearlessness
- Through your actions: generosity, kindness and willingness to extend a helping hand or listening ear – to serve others instead of yourself
- Through your speech: encouraging, uplifting and hopeful.

<u>Transition (Wrapping Up, Vision Casting to Cell & Closing the Discussion)</u>

This is a period of adjustments for all of us: non-believers and believers. But we, as believers, need not fear because we have the promise of Jesus - the sent Holy Spirit, who provides us with divine help. This is the time to go forth boldly in the Spirit to share the gospel!

WORKS [10 min]

Let's pray for the following pointers:

- 1. Pray for all RiverLifers to walk in the Spirit day after day
 - To overcome our sins and purify ourselves
 - To align our hearts with God's will
- 2. Pray for God to put someone in our minds or path to walk alongside with in this "new normal"
 - For boldness to approach that person
 - For God's love and compassion to overflow to that someone.
- 3. Pray for the COVID-19 situation.
 - Pray for the local community cases to come to a halt
 - Pray for protection over all members of society as they return to their workplaces and schools in the weeks to come.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. **Bible Reading Plan.** You can access the latest Bible Reading Plan by visiting www.riverlifeorg.sg/brp.
- 2. **Holy Communion**. Holy Communion will be conducted this Sunday (7 June) during the service. Do come for the service prepared with a piece of bread/biscuit and grape juice/juice of any kind. Instructions will be given during the service.

3. A Special Message From The Bartley Family Of Churches

RiverLife Church is part of the Bartley Family of Churches (BFOC) alongside Bartley Christian Church, Brighton Community Church and Kingdom Community Church. Watch this special message: bit.ly/bfocmsg



Church Vision

"A radiant disciple-making church catalysing Kingdom transformation in our communities and the nations."

Mission

We exist to make disciples who behold Christ and reveal Him.

