

## **Thoughts about Pentecost**

You have probably heard many sermons about the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

It's always good to remember the great and wonderful things God did, when the church was born. So much can be learned from reading the second chapter of Acts about the person of the Holy Spirit, the unity and boldness this group had and so on.

What does it mean for me personally today?

The story begins with Jesus commanding them to stay in Jerusalem and wait for the promise of the father. And this is what they did, as you can read in Acts 1:14 they continued, united in prayer.

So if we want to receive the Spirit's power we should follow God's word, generally and specifically.

Obviously the believers expected something to happen, even though they didn't know exactly what. And when the Holy Spirit came it was suddenly. Suddenly has in it the surprise factor. I have found myself praying for something, somewhat expecting but still being surprised when it actually happened, or how it happened.

We can not control the time, or the form, the Holy Spirit chooses. That doesn't necessarily mean we lose all control when we experience an outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Peter was still able to give a very reasonable message. Power for witnessing was the focus, not an emotional high. Of course it must have been an emotional high for them and so it is for us when the Holy Spirit manifests, but it has a purpose and that purpose is extrovert. To sum this up, we may keep these thoughts:

- trust and obey God's general and specific word
- be in unity, in prayer, with an expectant and open heart
- time, place, person or method are not yours to control
- open your mouth and speak, share with others, testify!