

**DAY OF PENTECOST**  
**For Group Meetings from May 13 through May 19**

**Prayer of the Day:** Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**BIBLICAL EQUIPPING TOGETHER:**

**Share:** How did last week's scripture (John 17:6-19) work in your life?

**Mission:** What was most satisfying about your ministry last week? Where do you see God at work? How did you participate in God's missional activity? ***How did inviting go last Saturday and Sunday? How many new people did you talk to?***

**Hear:** John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

**Explore Questions:** (Use these or develop your own.)

1. Jesus is instructing the disciples at the last supper. What stands out to you? What questions or concerns does this passage bring to you?
2. Who is the Advocate and how does Jesus describe his work?
3. How might these words of Jesus have been a comfort to the disciples who were filled with sorrow at the thought of Jesus leaving? Might they have been a challenge as well? In what ways?

**Connect Questions:** (Use these or develop your own.)

4. Jesus prepared the disciples a little at a time according to what he thought they could handle. How do you handle waiting? What is helpful or not helpful? How does faith play a role in your waiting?
5. Names for the Holy Spirit are *Advocate, Spirit of Truth, Comforter, Counselor, Helper*. How do you think about the Holy Spirit and are these images helpful to you?
6. How do we hear the Spirit's voice of truth in our lives? What do you think the Spirit is calling us to do as a congregation, in our communities and in our world?

**Prepare:** Memorize this verse: *"When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come."* (John 16:13). How do you hear God calling you?

**BIBLICAL EQUIPPING APART:**

**Obey:** During this week follow through on your intentions.

**Meditate:** Read Acts 2:1-21. How does this speak into your life?

**Reflect:** What have I learned in my week of living with this text? What can I share with my group when we next meet?

**OUR MISSION TOGETHER:** As a missional congregation we celebrate Christ's presence, invite people into a growing relationship with Jesus, and equip them to serve in a broken world.

**Notes for ChristCare leaders:**

Jesus knows the disciples have sorrow in their hearts, because he will be leaving them. He gives them words of comfort, guidance, and truth, yet he also tells them they aren't ready to hear everything yet. He sets them on a path of waiting. They are waiting for his promises to come true, and he does promise to give them everything they need to go on after he is gone. What Jesus is asking from the disciples is trust. Our faith is trust in Jesus alone. We trust that he keeps his promises. That is how we know and celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. The Spirit was given and has been with us as the presence of Christ among us ever since. The Spirit leads us and guides us, comforts us and intercedes for us "with sighs too deep for words." What a beautiful way for Jesus to continue with us strengthening our faith, giving us wisdom, filling us with peace, and gently comforting us when we have sorrow in our own hearts. If we struggle, we can ask Jesus to help us to feel the Spirit with us and to help us be patient in our waiting, trusting in our Lord and Savior who is the Spirit of Truth in our lives and in the world guiding us to serve, love, and share peace with all people.

Thanks be to God,  
Pastor Andrea [acain@desertcross.org](mailto:acain@desertcross.org)

\*\*\*\*\*

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
As we forgive those  
Who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
And deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
And the glory are yours,  
Now and forever. Amen.

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.  
  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
Born of the virgin Mary,  
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
Was crucified died and was buried;  
He descended to the dead,  
On the third day he rose again;  
He ascended into heaven,  
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
He will come to judge the living and the  
dead.  
  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
The holy catholic church,  
The communion of saints,  
The forgiveness of sins,  
The resurrection of the body,  
And the life everlasting. Amen