

Call to worship

As we gather to worship,

Holy Spirit, breathe upon our lives, blow away our complacency and stir us to action.

Give us courage to speak and to connect.

Settle your power upon us and fire us up for mission.

Prayer

Holy Spirit, as we celebrate Pentecost, we recall the mighty power that your presence brings. As the disciples gathered, you gave them the gift of languages because this was what was needed. The disciples spoke by your power and 3000 lives were forever changed. Today, we ask you to see our needs in mission and meet them. As we respond to your power, fill us with courage, wisdom and passion and change lives in our communities. Amen.

Intergenerational segment

- **Key points:**
- **The Holy Spirit provides power**
- **This power helps us to fulfil God's purpose**

I've brought some things to show you today. You might have some of these in your home.

Show everyone several small electrical appliances. For example, a popcorn maker, toaster, hair dryer, hair clippers or espresso machine. Do not plug any of these in but ensure you have easy access to a power outlet.

For each one, ask:

What is this?

What do we use it for?

Summarise the purpose of each one...

For example, the toaster is for toasting bread, the hair dryer is for drying hair, the clippers are for trimming hair, the espresso machine is for making coffee.

Each of these has a purpose.



Let's see them in action. Without plugging it into power, ask for a volunteer to demonstrate how one of them is used (for example, supply bread and ask them to toast it).

Why isn't it working? Right, we need power. Plug in the appliance and ask the volunteer to try again.

It works when it has power.

Did you know that today is a special day? It is called Pentecost. On Pentecost, about 50 days after Jesus died and rose again, the followers of Jesus were meeting together – a bit like we are today. Something amazing happened.

They heard a noise like a rushing wind and saw flames of fire in the air over each person. The wind and the flames told them that the Holy Spirit, that's God, had come to help them. They felt brave and strong. Then, suddenly, they each began to speak in languages they had never learnt! Imagine if you could suddenly speak Italian or Cantonese.

Lots of people came to hear them speak. Just like in Australia, people from many different countries lived there and they were amazed to hear the disciples talking in languages that they understood. On that day, about 3000 people became followers of Jesus.

Point back to the appliances.

The (name the appliances) can't do what they are meant to do until they have the power of the electricity.

Jesus had given the disciples a purpose or a mission. We can read it in Matthew 28:19, "Go to the people of all nations and make them my disciples" (CEV). But the disciples were a bit scared after Jesus had been killed. They were hiding out.

The Holy Spirit came to fire them up and give them power to do what they were supposed to do.

Each one of us, no matter how old we are, has a purpose too. The Holy Spirit helps us to understand and have the courage and power to do what Jesus asks us to do.

So, how do we plug into the power of the Holy Spirit? The Holy Spirit is a gift that God gives to his followers. We can pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help us and to give us his power to do God's work.

Let's pray now for the power of the Holy Spirit...

Lead the congregation in a simple prayer asking for the power of the Holy Spirit in their lives.

