



Life Groups in Central Telford Parish
Summer 2016 "Encounters"
Week beginning 15th May 2016
Pentecost

- **Welcome**

Which famous person has inspired you the most ?

- **Worship**

Read John 16:5-15. Remind yourselves that the Holy Spirit has come to "convict the world of sin" (v8), to "guide us into all truth" (v13) and to bring "glory to God" (v14). The promise Jesus made in John 14:16 was fulfilled at Pentecost - spend some time giving thanks that the promise was fulfilled and invite the Holy Spirit to come into your meeting so that he might convict you, guide you and bring glory to God. Songs such as: "O Breath of Life", "Holy Spirit We Welcome You" and "Spirit of the Living God" may be helpful.

- **Word**

Read Acts 2:1-13 ... you do not need to read all of the names - just realise there were "lots of people from lots of different places" !!

- If you had been there, what do you think your reaction might have been ?
- Would it have perhaps been like those in verse 13 ?
- Have you ever witnessed a move of the Spirit, such as the "Toronto Blessing" ?
- Have you experience anything like it for yourself ?
- What was you reaction to it - and why ?

Please note that all of us our different and if our reactions are honest, then there are no wrong answers to this !

- What does "to be inspired" actually mean ?

Think about your answers to the "Welcome" question and read Genesis 2:7 (the Hebrew word for "breath" is *ruach* which is the same word used for the Holy Spirit.)

To be *inspired* by the Holy Spirit means to literally "breath God into our being" so that our spirit is controlled by God's Holy Spirit. How can we do this ?

The more we breath in God, the greater the effect the Spirit has on our lives ... changing us so that our lives begin to look more like Jesus.

Read Galatians 5:22-23.

- How does fruit grow ?
- How long does it take ?
- What does it need to grow ?
- What is its purpose ?
- What similarities can you see with the effects of the Spirit on our lives ?

Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

- Why has the church, generally speaking, become scared of the Gifts of the Spirit ?
- Are gifts always given to other people ?
- Have you ever experienced a Spiritual Gift ?
- If so, how would you describe to those who might find it hard to understand ?

➤ If not, would you like to do so ? Why/Why not ?

Read Matthew 7:11 just ask !

- **Walk**

Each person in the group will have a different need to bring to God and it is important that we realise that God loves us as we are and that he wants to meet our needs *as we are* not *as we would like to be*. Invite the group to share what they need as individuals to "breathe" in more of God, to see the Fruit develop or to have a particular (or any !) Gift to help them do what God is wanting them to do or all of it ! Pray for each other.

Pray for any other specific issues people are facing in the Life Group. If you haven't done so, it is a great idea to start a prayer diary, recording the things you have prayed for and seeing how God answers your prayers!

- **Next Time ...**

Week beginning 29th May:

Job 38:1-11– Job and The Fantastic God

