

“In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.”
(Acts 2: 17-18 NIV)

Recently I had the opportunity to go with Daniel on a trip to Charlotte, North Carolina. It was a field trip with the Loris Middle School Chorus for a Chorus Competition. The night before the competition the group went to a concert by the Charlotte Symphony.

I have been to such concerts before but it always amazes me when the orchestra “warms up.” Each member of the orchestra starts playing their instrument in the way they think is best. There is no director and the whole thing just sounds very chaotic.

However, when the director comes in and each musician focuses on the piece to be played the music is beautiful. The musicians play each instrument according to a particular piece of music directed by the conductor. What a difference! On the Day of Pentecost, the Bible tells us the followers of Jesus were together in one place and for the same purpose. Since Easter the followers of Jesus had seen their leader come and go in a variety of situations. He had walked with them and talked with them but before their very eyes he had ascended into heaven (Acts 1:9).

On Pentecost, they were unsure of what they were supposed to do. There were without a leader. Then, as promised, the Holy Spirit enters the world as a mighty, rushing wind. And suddenly everything changes. Before the Holy Spirit there was undoubtedly chaos as each person did what they thought was best. As the Spirit of God enters into the world and the people gathered there a situation that should have been chaotic suddenly becomes organized and beautiful.

The Bible says:

“All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken.”
(Acts 2:4-6 NIV)

The right leader makes all the difference. Just as an orchestra with no conductor sounds like a lot of chaotic noise so is the church without the Spirit. Yet when we are open to God’s Spirit, while we may be different, we come together in our own way and make beautiful music together.

Be sensitive to the Spirit of God. Remember that we are never alone. Jesus promised that the Spirit would be our advocate and comforter:

“...the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.
(John. 14:26-27 NIV)

The story of the church does not end at Christmas or at Easter or at Pentecost. It continues each and every day as we live out our lives to the Glory of God guided by the Holy Spirit. Rejoice knowing that you are never alone and you are never separated from your savior!

Have a great month!
Pastor Tim