

## **BHBC Life Group notes Pentecost Sermon 2019**

### **Title: Take your foot off the break pedal!**

The sermon opened with an illustration of driving nervously with ones foot on the break peddle when the road allows ease of use. Which led us to think about times when the Lord has wanted to move in our lives and we've been a bit apprehensive and slowed down and stopped. Sometimes others try and put their foot on the break when we serve the Lord by offering negative comments such as, "You're becoming too radical for the Lord."

### **Joel 2:28-34**

Let's break that sentence dow:

I—the **sovereignty** of God.

Will—the **determination** of God.

Pour Out—the **generosity** of God.

My Spirit—the **personality** of God.

Eight hundred years later Peter quotes Joel 2 at the beginning of his magnificent sermon in Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:14-41). When the Holy Spirit came upon the early disciples, they began to speak with other tongues, declaring the Lord's greatness in languages that they did not know. What happened in Jerusalem was a fulfilment of what Joel had predicted eight centuries earlier: "This is what was spoken by the prophet Joel" (Acts 2:16).

**What does Pentecost mean to you? What does it mean biblically?**

**How have you experienced the generosity of the Spirit being poured out in your life?**

**The congregation was encouraged to think of the personality of the Holy Spirit. What does that mean?**

**"I will pour out my Spirit."** This is one of the greatest statements in the Bible. This is *how God ignites kingdom life in His people*. He pours out his Spirit on them and they are never the same again. **How are people never the same again?**

**What do you think it means to :ignite Kingdom life"?**

**What happened on the day of Pentecost that could be repeated today?**

You cannot understand Joel 2 and Acts 2 apart from God's great purpose to empower His people with the Spirit so they will take the gospel to the ends of the earth.

Acts 1:8 (NIV) **"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."**

The Greek word “Dunamis” is what we get our word “power” from.

The word refers to “**strength, power, or ability.**” It is the root word of our English words dynamite, dynamo and dynamic.

However, *dunamis* is not just any power; the word often refers to miraculous power or marvellous works

**Luke 9:1(NIV) “When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them *power* and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases.”**

Dunamis can refer to “inherent power, power residing in a thing by virtue of its nature, or which a person or thing exerts and puts forth”

In other words, **the Lord has inherent power residing in Himself. In other words, dunamis is part of His nature. What does this mean to us as disciples of Jesus? What Scripture verse can you think of to back up your answers?**

**Matthew 24:30 (NIV) “Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven. And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with *power* and great glory.”**

We do not live the Christian life in our own power, but in God’s. It is God’s ability that makes us able to accomplish anything of value, for apart from Him we can do nothing (**John 15:5**). It is His strength that makes us overcomers.

**Talk about the power of the Holy Spirit to help us overcome the things we need to overcome.**

**How can we make room for the Holy Spirit today in our individual homes?**

**Your pulpit is your world, i..e., where you work, study and so forth. Pray for those in your world to draw closer to Christ through your testimony in the power of the Holy Spirit.**

**How easily do we find to walk in God's power rather than our own power?**

**In the context of being filled with the power of the Holy Spirit, what does it mean to you to take your foot off the brake peddle?**

**Discuss the following Scriptures:**

**2 Corinthians 4:7 (NIV)**

“But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing **power** is from God and not from us.”

**Ephesians 3:20-21 (NIV)**

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, 21 to him be **glory** in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.”

**2 Peter 1:3 (NIV)**

His divine **power** has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.