

# **GREENFOREST COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH**

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*TEACHING ON TUESDAYS (5/19/20)*

## **“PENTECOST IN THE MIDST OF A PANDEMIC” – Acts 2:1-11**

As we experience the pandemic created by COVID19, God is using this crisis to get the world's attention. To this end, Christians and churches have a prime opportunity to experience a fresh wind by the Holy Spirit, unite the world under Christ, connect with the unchurched, and reach the unsaved.

### **I. What should we know about the Acts of the Apostles?**

1. It was written by Luke
2. It is the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the Gospel of Luke which originally was all one book
3. It is the 5<sup>th</sup> book of the Bible (5 is the number of Grace. The 10 commandments are divided in to 2 sets of 5. The first 5 books of the OT are grouped together to form the Pentateuch. The Psalms are divided in to 5 sections. In creation God gave us 5 toes, 5 fingers, and 5 senses. David defeated Goliath w/ 5 stones. Jesus fed 5k w/ 5 loaves.)
4. Chronicles the work of Holy Spirit through the Apostles
5. Shows how the apostles reached entire cities & countries w/ the gospel of Jesus Christ

### **II. History of the Writer – Luke was...**

1. DOCTOR –
  - a. Luke was a physician who sacrificed his career to write and tell the world about Christ. God may not ask you to quit your job but all of us ought to be willing to tell someone about Christ. If we can tell people about a good sale, restaurant, or vacation, surely, we can tell them about Jesus.
2. DETAILED ORIENTED –
  - a. Luke was more specific, comprehensive, thorough, and intentional than the other gospel writers. In fact, Luke's attention to detail was very evident in how he used numbers to help paint a picture (Jesus was circumcised after 8 days, Jesus was in the temple at the age of 12, Jesus had 12 disciples, at the Wedding at Cana Jesus asked for 6 cisterns to be filled with water, the Woman with the issue of blood was sick for 12 years, there was a Woman bent over for 39 years, there were 10 lepers healed of leprosy, and Jesus fed 5k people with 5 loaves of bread & 2 fish).
3. DOGMATIC –
  - a. Luke was very strict, assertive, & adamant about the fact Jesus was a Jew trying to reach Jews & Gentiles. He stresses that Jesus is the bridge between: God and man, the OT & NT, Law & Grace, Jews & Gentiles, and Heaven & Earth.
4. DOCTRINAL –
  - a. Luke is crystal clear on his Christology & doctrine. He is clear that Jesus is fully human (Son of Mary) and divine (God the Son).
5. DIRECT –
  - a. Very clear that Jesus is the savior of the world. He is very forward that Jesus is the Savior who saves us from sin, Satan, and self.

## 6. DIFFERENT –

- a. Luke highlights Jesus's countless interaction w/ women (Mary & Martha, Woman at the Well, Woman with the Alabaster Jar, Woman bent over 39 years, woman with issues of blood for 12 years, the women at the cross, & the women at the tomb). Luke shows us there would probably be no church without women.

## 7. DUMBFOUNDED -

- a. Luke was amazed that Jesus performed healing miracles without ever going to medical school, writing a prescription, doing a XRAY, CAT Scan, or MRI.

## 8. DETERMINED –

- a. Luke wanted the world to know that Jesus (Yeshua) was not just a preacher, teacher, and healer but a liberator. Yeshua means God's saves, liberates, and sets free!

## 9. DEDICATED –

- a. Luke wrote these 2 books knowing it could cost him his life. And looking at Luke's life makes us ask ourselves are we willing to lose our life for Christ.

## 10. DEVOTED –

- a. Luke was so committed to the growth of Christianity that he becomes the historian/curator of the early church history.

### **III. What made the day of Pentecost so powerful?**

- a) **SOLIDARITY** on Pentecost (v.1) – “on one accord”
- b) **SOUND** of Pentecost (v.2) – “sound from heaven”
- c) **SIGHT** of Pentecost (v.3) – “appeared”
- d) **SPIRIT** of Pentecost (v.4) – “filled w/ Holy Ghost”
- e) **SPEECH** at Pentecost (v.5-11) – “spoke in tongues”

### **IV. What is the Holy Spirit's job?**

- a) **CONVICT** us when are wrong
- b) **CONVINCE** us to follow God's will
- c) **CONVERT** our hearts toward Christ
- d) **COMFORT** us in times of trouble
- e) **COMMUNICATE** with God on our behalf

### **V. How can we experience Pentecost in the midst of a Pandemic?**

- a) **REMAIN** connected with other believers (v.1)
- b) **RECEIVE** what God is trying to tell you (v.2)
- c) **RECOGNIZE** what God is trying to reveal (v.3)
- d) **RELY** on the power of the Holy Spirit (v.4)
- e) **REACH** others outside of your circle (v.5-11a)
- f) **REMEMBER** to give God glory (v.11b -12)