

Young Prayer Warriors

Theme: Praise

Subject: Celebration

Scripture: Acts 2:2

Suddenly there was a sound like the roaring of a mighty
windstorm in the skies above them and it filled
the house where they were meeting (TLB).

Holy Hurricane

Jesus had given His disciples specific instructions to wait before Him until He sent the Promised Holy Spirit. It had been close to seven weeks now since His death and resurrection. In obedience to Jesus' command, the disciples all met together day after day in the Upper Room. As they waited, they prayed, praised God and worshipped. They were united in prayer and in purpose. There is something important about being in unity of mind and spirit with one another and with the Lord that brings a powerful presence of the Holy Spirit into our midst.

As the disciples prayed, they heard a distant noise. What is that? Peter may have asked.

Sounds like it's coming up a storm, replied John.

No, I don't think that's your everyday storm, said Peter. There is not a cloud in the sky. In fact, the sun is shining.

There it goes again, said John, standing and walking to a window.

There were Jews from many countries in Jerusalem that day for the celebration of the Feast of Pentecost. Those assembled in the Upper Room may have thought these visitors were being especially noisy in the streets. Jewish feasts and festivals are often loud and lively.

But the sound of wind continued to intensify until it was like a hurricane hovering over the house where they were. Then there appeared what looked like flames and tongues of fire that rested over their heads. Everybody in the room was baptized in the Holy Spirit that day and spoke in languages they had never learned as the Holy Spirit gave them the ability to speak. As they praised God in these new languages, the power of the Holy Spirit was filling them. The disciples spilled out of the room into the streets where the foreign visitors heard them speaking the gospel message in their native languages.

The baptism of the Holy Spirit gives power to witness, testify, worship, intercede and praise. All of these people spoke what sounded like gibberish to the human ear, yet it was like sweet music to the ears of God.

There is such a thing as intercessory praise as well as intercessory prayer. You need to use your language of intercessory praise at times to praise the Lord. It will give a release in the Holy Spirit that you have never experienced before. Some say that when you praise God in a heavenly language, the devil does not know one word that you are speaking. It goes straight to God from your heart.

Closer Look

Is the baptism of the Holy Spirit for everyone? Yes, it is for everyone, regardless of one's age. Have you experienced the infilling of the Holy Spirit in your life? Let the Spirit of Pentecost send a Holy Hurricane your way. It is like dynamite in your life. God is ready to send it to you. Celebrate the outpouring of Pentecost. It belongs to you! What a celebration to raise your hands, head and heart in a time of strategic and dynamic praise to the Lord.

TIME OUT

WORD UP

Monday	Lord, I praise You in the spirit today.	Psalms 146:2
Tuesday:	Praise through me today, Holy Spirit, the way I need to praise.	Psalms 148:13
Wednesday:	Lord, I render my highest praise to You from the depths of my heart.	Psalms 93:4
Thursday:	Bind us together with Your love and Your Spirit today.	Psalms 133:1
Friday:	May the fruit of Your Spirit operate in my life today.	Galatians 5:16
Saturday:	Empower me, Holy Spirit, to praise You more.	1 Thessalonians 5:19

Time To

Answer a Power Of Prayer Quiz.

1. How much time lapsed between Jesus' death and resurrection and the outpouring of the Spirit?
2. Where did Jesus tell the disciples to wait for the promise?
3. What was the name of the city where they were supposed to wait?
4. Jews were in Jerusalem for what event?
5. What happens as we praise God in a heavenly language?
6. What are the results of intercessory praise?
7. What does our praise sound like to the Father?
8. What is the special day called?
9. What looked like flames over the heads of those praying in the Upper Room?
10. Why is it important to praise God in an unknown tongue?