**Welcome to Bible Study – 28th May 2023**

**SPEAKING YOUR LANGUAGE**

**Opening Prayer** (please pray together)

**Thank you, Father, for this place to gather and your Spirit who gathers us. May we accept your gift with grace and wisdom, hope and fearlessness. Give us strength and wisdom to act on your will, Amen.**

**Welcome** 🙏

**Q 1 What is your favourite language? What do you love about it?**

**Worship 🎤**

Choose worship that speaks about the Spirit and Pentecost

**Word; Psalm 104.24-34, 35b**

Our Lord, by your wisdom you made so many things;  
the whole earth is covered with your living creatures.  
25But what about the ocean so big and wide? It is alive with creatures, large and small.  
26 And there are the ships, as well as Leviathan, the monster you created to splash in the sea.

27All of these depend on you to provide them with food,  
28and you feed each one with your own hand, until they are full.  
29But when you turn away, they are terrified; when you end their life, they die and rot.  
30You created all of them by your Spirit, and you give new life to the earth.

31Our Lord, we pray that your glory will last forever  
and that you will be pleased with what you have done.  
32You look at the earth, and it trembles. You touch the mountains, and smoke goes up.  
33As long as I live, I will sing and praise you, the Lord God.  
34I hope my thoughts will please you, because you are the one who makes me glad. 35b With all my heart I praise you, Lord! I praise you!

**Word; Acts 2.1-21 The Coming of the Holy Spirit**

2 On the day of Pentecost all the Lord's followers were together in one place. 2Suddenly there was a noise from heaven like the sound of a mighty wind! It filled the house where they were meeting. 3Then they saw what looked like fiery tongues moving in all directions, and a tongue came and settled on each person there. 4The Holy Spirit took control of everyone, and they began speaking whatever languages the Spirit let them speak.

5Many religious Jews from every country in the world were living in Jerusalem. 6And when they heard this noise, a crowd gathered. But they were surprised, because they were hearing everything in their own languages. 7They were excited and amazed, and said: Don't all these who are speaking come from Galilee? 8Then why do we hear them speaking our very own languages? 9Some of us are from Parthia, Media, and Elam. Others are from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, Asia, 10Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, parts of Libya near Cyrene, Rome, 11Crete, and Arabia.

Some of us were born Jews, and others of us have chosen to be Jews. Yet we all hear them using our own languages to tell the wonderful things God has done. 12Everyone was excited and confused. Some of them even kept asking each other, “What does all this mean?” 13Others made fun of the Lord's followers and said, “They are drunk.”

**Peter Speaks to the Crowd**

14Peter stood with the eleven apostles and spoke in a loud and clear voice to the crowd: Friends and everyone else living in Jerusalem, listen carefully to what I have to say! 15You are wrong to think that these people are drunk. After all, it is only nine o'clock in the morning. 16But this is what God told the prophet Joel to say,

17 “When the last days come, I will give my Spirit to everyone.  
Your sons and daughters will prophesy.  
Your young men will see visions, and your old men will have dreams.  
18In those days I will give my Spirit to my servants, both men and women,  
    and they will prophesy.

19“I will work miracles in the sky above and wonders on the earth below.  
There will be blood and fire and clouds of smoke.  
20The sun will turn dark, and the moon will be as red as blood before the great  
and wonderful day of the Lord appears.   
21Then the Lord will save everyone who asks for his help.”

**On this day, we remember the sacrifice that made this gift possible: the perfect Lamb who was slain, the blood that was spilled, the curtain that was torn in two. And we remember the stone that was rolled away.**

**And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.**

**Q 2 Could you imagine witnessing what happened on the day of Pentecost. How do you think you would have felt?**

**Q 3 The day had finally come. The power Jesus and so many prophets had spoken of was upon the believers. Please discuss this power.**

**Q 4 Each person heard their own language spoken and God’s mission was ready to go into the World. Did you know, that power is still available to us today? Have you ever felt the presence of Gods Spirit? Tell us, in what ways.**

**Works**

Pray for each other and for the gifts of the Spirit

**Ending Prayer** (please pray together)

**Lord, give us the ability to speak in languages of love and peace, mercy and kindness; in generosity and benevolence, in humility and patience, and in truthful words of encouragement. Lord, we receive your gift with patient anticipation. Make us the hands and feet of your invisible Spirit, and like your Spirit, make us invisible, so that the light of Christ Jesus may shine through us.**

**Shalom Rev Darren King** (refRoots on the Web, The Message)