

Preparing for Pentecost - Waiting

The time between Easter and Pentecost is rich with Gospel readings of encounters with the Risen Christ. Jesus encourages His disciples to be at peace, to accept the Good News of His resurrection, and to spread that Good News to the ends of the earth.

How do you suppose they felt when faced with these instructions? Perhaps they were still reeling from the harrowing events of Good Friday. Perhaps they felt inadequate to do what He had asked of them.

Of course we are His disciples too, given the same instructions as those first followers. Do we feel prepared to do what He asks? Are we ready to trust the Good News -- to stake our lives on it? To base our decisions on it? To share it with others?

Our Heavenly Father knows this is a lot to ask. He anticipated our frailty, and planned the remedy from the dawn of time.

"I will pour out my Spirit..." Joel 3:1

Jesus tells His disciples to wait for the Spirit. In these weeks leading up to Pentecost we too are asked to wait, and to pray, and to ponder...

- ***What have I been struggling to do in my own power?***
- ***What have I been avoiding out of fear or weakness?***
- ***What am I lacking? Wisdom? Fortitude? Something else?***

Only when we identify these needs can we realize just how precious the Spirit's gifts are, and pray from the depths of our hearts, "Come Holy Spirit!"

Let's spend some time with these questions, as we wait for the Spirit's response at Pentecost.