

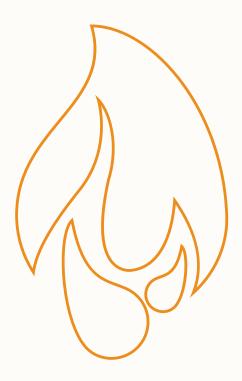
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Welcome to this 24-7 Prayer Resource, created to be a helpful guide as our church comes together to pray non-stop for 7 days, beginning on Pentecost Sunday. This resource combines stillness, scripture, praise and prayer and you are free to use it in whatever way works best for you.

Over 160 people have committed to pray for at least one hour this week, which is an incredible reflection of our church family's dedication to prayer. We know that our Father God loves to hear His children's prayers and we also know He longs to speak that love over us as we quiet our hearts and spend time in His presence.

As you prepare to enter into your time of prayer, find a quiet space and switch off your phone. Breathe slowly. Be still. Be conscious of your scattered senses, drawing them back to this moment. Light a candle to help you to focus. Welcome the presence of the Holy Spirit. Welcome Jesus Christ. Welcome Father God. Invite them to be with you in the place you are right now.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, we pray that as you open your hands and your hearts in prayer, that your spirit would be set alight by the power of the Holy Spirit. A worship playlist is available for you to use us part of your time of listening and reflecting click here





Before Jesus ascends into Heaven, to sit at the right hand of His Father as the ultimate High Priest, he tells his friends, "And when the Holy Spirit comes on you, you will be able to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, all over Judea and Samaria, even to the ends of the world." However, this doesn't happen instantly. They have to wait. And as they wait, they pray together.

If we're being honest, most of us aren't very good at waiting. Quite often that is as a result of being disappointed by things in our past not turning out the way we wanted them to, and so we end up taking matters into our own hands. But if Jesus tells us that the Father promises to give us the Holy Spirit, then we can trust that the wait is worthwhile.

What are you waiting for? Invite Jesus to sit with you in the waiting.

What are you praying for? Invite the Holy Spirit to bring new words to old prayers.

What are you trusting for? Invite God to remind you of His character.

So they left the mountain called Olives and returned to Jerusalem. It was a little over half a mile. They went to the upper room they had been using as a meeting place...They agreed they were in this for good, completely together in prayer.

When the Feast of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Without warning there was a sound like a strong wind, gale force - no one could tell where it came from. It filled the whole building.

Then, like a wildfire, the Holy Spirit spread through their ranks, and they started speaking in a number of different languages as the Spirit prompted them.

Acts 2 v 1-4

In the Old Testament, God's presence within the holy of holies in the temple, was often indicated by an overwhelming fire or consuming flame.

In **Ezekiel 10:18**, the prophet describes the glory of God departing from the temple because of the idolatry and disobedience of Israel but the restoration of God's presence is prophesied in chapters **36-37**, with Ezekiel expressing a hope for the return of God's fire to the temple at a future time.

Acts 2 is the moment of return for God's presence, not in the temple, but in an anonymous person's home. Could Ezekiel have ever imagined God's presence coming in power, in tongues of fire, and resting on ordinary people? As the Holy Spirit comes to rest on them, each believer is transformed into a living-temple filled with the power and presence of God.

be filled

with bold ungen

Each of us experience the Spirit moving in our lives differently; what ultimately matters is that the Spirit unites us as a fellowship of believers, just as we read about in this passage.

Our church is full of distinct people – all very different, all very unique. The early church models a spirit-filled life that transformed, united and empowered normal people to live utterly amazing lives for Christ.

Reflect on the way of life the newly born church models. What are their priorities? **Pray that the Holy Spirit takes** these priorities and embeds them within your own life.

"Change your life. Turn to God and be baptized, each of you, in the name of Jesus Christ, so your sins are forgiven. Receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is targeted to you and your children, but also to all who are far away whomever, in fact, our **Master God** invites."

change your life

That day about three thousand took him at his word, were baptized and were signed up. They committed themselves to the teaching of the apostles, the life together, the common meal, and the prayers.

The city of Jerusalem is forever changed in this moment.

Three thousand people give their lives to Jesus.

We hunger for a Pentecost-move of the Holy Spirit in our city today.

We hunger for God to anoint people who will share the good news with boldness, who will step into their communities and be temples of His presence - bringing abundance and freedom and restoration.

Let's continue to pray for revival in our souls, our city and our land.

In Acts 2, Peter explains to the crowd that has gathered how what they are seeing is what the prophet Joel had previously written about.

These prophecies, dreams and pictures are gifts from the Spirit which are available to all servants of God. That includes you.

On Sunday 30 June, we want to expectantly invite you to bring to church any words, pictures or prophecies that you believe God has laid on your heart through His Holy Spirit. If you're unable to attend in person, you can email these to office@orangefield.org.uk

listen carefully

"I will pour out my Spirit
on every kind of people:
Your sons will prophesy,
also your daughters;
Your young men will see
visions,
your old men dream dreams.
When the time comes,
I'll pour out my Spirit
On those who serve me, men
and women both,
and they'll prophesy."

go deeper

Want to go deeper with your understanding of the Holy Spirit?

Here are some recommendations

15 mins

The Bible Project - video exploration of the Holy Spirit - click here

Lectio 365 Prayer app - click here

1 hour

Church of the City, New York podcast - click here

Greenways podcast, featuring Laura Bell - click here

more...

Everyday Supernatural by Mike Pilavachi - click here

Family Brayer

If you have young children, we would love to encourage you to include them within your prayer time or create a new time to come together to pray as a family. Here are some ideas for praying together that you might find helpful:

Who is the Holy Spirit

Click here for a great video that you can watch together that helps to explain who the Holy Spirit is

Listening Brayers

Set a timer for 5 minutes and listen to some quiet music that doesn't have any words. Close your eyes and ask God to show you what He thinks about you.

Write down or draw whatHe shows you.

Brave Prayers

Who do you know that you'd like to talk to about God? Sometimes that can be a little scary but God can make us brave because his Holy Spirit goes with us. Pray for the person you've thought about and pray that God would make you brave like Peter.

