**9/27/15 “Ready, set, Wait. . . . . . On the Holy Spirit”**

Acts 2:1-12

1. Introduction
   1. Yogi Berra- died this past week at age 90, baseball player/manager New York Yankees
   2. Quotes: When you come to a fork in the road, take it., You can observe a lot by just watching., It ain't over till it's over, It's like déjà vu all over again., Baseball is ninety percent mental and the other half is physical., A nickel ain't worth a dime anymore., Always go to other people's funerals, otherwise they won't come to yours., Congratulations. I knew the record would stand until it was broken. **I never said, some of the things I said**
      1. My mom and my wife are also notorious for messing up sayings
   3. Sermon title this am is a little like a Yogi Berra saying
   4. Two weeks ago= Jesus said follow me
   5. Last week= Make Disciples (Singular purpose of the Church), OnetilEveryone
   6. Now= Ready, set, wait. . . . . . . . . . .On the Holy Spirit
      1. Back up Before Jesus told his disciples that they would be his witnesses
      2. Ch. 1:4-5

4And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; 5for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

* + 1. Playing dodgeball in P.E. and saying “go. . . . . . .on the whistle”

1. Day of Pentecost here in Acts 2

Acts 2:1-12 When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. 2And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them.4And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.5Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. 6And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. 7And they were amazed and astonished, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language?9Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,10Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, 11both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.” 12And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?”

* 1. Story of the church in Acts
     1. Acts of the Apostles, Really is Acts of the Church, Easily could have been Acts of the Holy Spirit
     2. Here we have the official start of the Church
  2. Jesus had told the disciples that they would “receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you” (Acts 1:8a)
  3. We can learn from the disciples as we try to fulfill the singular purpose of Making Disciples
     1. Obedient= Jesus told them to wait and they were waiting
     2. Following directions: In Jerusalem, where Jesus told them they would be witnesses 1st
     3. Together in one place
        1. One accord= one the same page
        2. Unity
        3. Posture of hearing
     4. Bottom Line: They were Ready
  4. Jesus promised them that they would receive the Holy Spirit
     1. Better than Jesus
     2. John 16:7 Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.
     3. ESV says Helper, other versions “Comforter” or “Advocate”
        1. Definitons= Someone who helps, Someone who comforts
        2. My favorite-Advocate= a person who speaks or writes in support or defense of a person
     4. Why was it better
        1. because it is IN you, lives in you, with you
           1. before could just watch and observe, now he is with you at all times
        2. Be multiple places at once, where Jesus could only be in one place
        3. Speak for us, Mark 13:11 And when they bring you to trial and deliver you over, do not be anxious beforehand what you are to say, but say whatever is given you in that hour, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit
           1. Don’t have to worry about messing up the words like Yogi Berra

1. Getting the Holy Spirit
   1. How
      1. Simple: pray, receive, Evangelize/Make Disciples
      2. 1:14 they prayed in one accord in Ch. 2 they received;
      3. Ch. 4:31

And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness. (They prayed-filled with HS- Speak with Boldness)

* + 1. Ch. 8:14-17

14Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, 15who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, 16for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 17Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.  (Side Note: Last Week=be my witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria)

* + 1. Pattern= Prayed, Received, Evangelized or Made Disciples; “For the Disciples praying was like inhaling the breath of God and evangelism happened as they exhaled what they had received” –Terry Teykl, evangelist
  1. Here= v.3 Divided Tongues of Fire
     1. I love how the Holy Spirit is described as Fire
     2. Fire is just awesome, hard to contain, spreads fast (not good in case of wild fires)
  2. Evidence
     1. Here= Tongues, Peter preached with power and in V.41 added about 3,000 souls that day, talk about evidence? Or making disciples?
     2. Fruit of the spirit

1. What does it look like when the Holy Spirit is Present TODAY
   1. CHURCH
      1. Nobody had to convince believers to show up for church in Acts (2). On Fire
      2. Making Disciples
      3. Cycle continues= Pray, Receive, Make Disciples
      4. Storm the gates of Hell
         1. Matt. 16:18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
   2. Ebenezer
      1. Offense not defense
         1. Sports metaphor
         2. Going out and getting more people MAKING DISCIPLES
         3. Can’t play it safe, no punting and always trying to get the ball
      2. “Give me one hundred preachers who fear nothing but sin, and desire nothing but God, and I care not a straw whether they be clergymen or laymen; such alone will shake the gates of hell and set up the kingdom of heaven on Earth.” ― John Wesley
      3. How= PRAY, RECEIVE, MAKE DISCIPLES
   3. Individual
      1. Not good enough for us just to pray for the “Church” or “Ebenezer”, we have to put it into action for ourselves, individually
      2. Quote attributed to John Wesley, “Set yourself on fire with passion & people will come from miles to watch you burn.”
         1. Fire metaphor again
         2. We must be ON FIRE BY THE HOLY SPIRIT
      3. Discipleship Group Wednesday talking about Paul
         1. Boldness and Fearlessness
         2. Paul wasn’t special, wasn’t a superhero
         3. Just received the Holy Spirit and did what came naturally **(Terry Tekyl Quote)**
      4. We must Pray for the Holy Spirit if we are to fulfill our purpose of Making Disciples