



Growing Faith

29 - Pentecost | 9 June 2025

The Importance of Pentecost

Written By Rev. Michael Adams

There are many times and seasons in Christianity. The most significant to me is indeed Pentecost, not because that's when 'the Holy Spirit came' – he's been around since creation! Not even because the disciples began to demonstrate 'gifts' which WAS significant. For me it's because it was a completion; the final act in a long string of God's promises beyond the cross.



Of course, Jesus' death and resurrection were world changing but if the story ended there we would still be left fighting our own fights, struggling our own struggles, with an Old Testament 'hope' – *"Maybe the Holy Spirit will intervene... come 'upon me'...."* remembering all the ways the Holy Spirit empowered and quickened men and women under the 'old' covenant of daily sacrifices, future visions; remembering the prophets, David and Goliath, Samson and all the 'others' we think of somehow as Old Testament 'heroes'.

Sure, our ultimate Hero is Jesus; there's never been a human, nor could there ever be, who could do what He did – after all He is God – albeit *incarnate*; in flesh. But unless Father and Son fulfilled the prophecies of long ago, they together would not have 'sent' the Holy Spirit in this new way.

There would be no more coming and going, no more 'upon' today and gone tomorrow. He was coming to fulfil Isaiah's 'pouring out' word – to come and stay.... *if* (there's always an 'if' – God always gives us a choice) we would believe and receive Him into our lives – to have the 'seal, the 'deposit', the *"I will never leave you"* then we would only need to ask.

God is unfathomable – He's just too beyond our tiny minds to comprehend fully. Heaven knows He has tried over many centuries to explain to His people 'how' He works, 'what' He wanted from us, 'when' all His words would come to pass, etc. In the main His people – the individuals, the families, the nation of Israel, even the Jews to whom Jesus came and spoke to face to face – were rebellious, stiff-necked, and made light of His laws, His requests, His leading by clouds and fire, His endless prompting by His prophets.... frankly I'm amazed God took Moses at his word to *not* destroy them in the desert and just start over. But He didn't, and here we are, post Pentecost; able to simply rejoice in God's fulfilled promise of an indwelling Helper, Comforter, and much more.

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Youth Church Update

(Every Wednesday, 3:30-4:15pm).

Saturday 12th July 2025...

is our youth church sponsored walk to Whalley Abbey for a Eucharist, a chance to raise some money for the Accrington Christians Together food bank, and hopefully to have lots of fun along the way. Watch out for more details nearer the time.

Wednesday 9th July 2025...

is the date that we are hosting our inaugural Spirituality conference at St. Christopher's, themed "Christ-carriers" for both primary and secondary teachers. If you work in a school

and would like to come, here is the link to book for just £10 to cover food:

<https://forms.office.com/e/RQ8Lusfs88>

Monday 30th June 2025...

is the day of our staff in-service training meaning that school will be closed to pupils. However, we are delighted that 'Christians in Sport' will be running a 'football development day' from 10am-1pm on our site for any boy or girl in years 7-10 who would like to learn more about football and the Christian Gospel message. Here is the link to sign up:

<https://christiansinsport.wufoo.com/forms/football-development-day-accrington>

A Prayer

By Anastasia M. Ritelis, Year 7

Dear God,

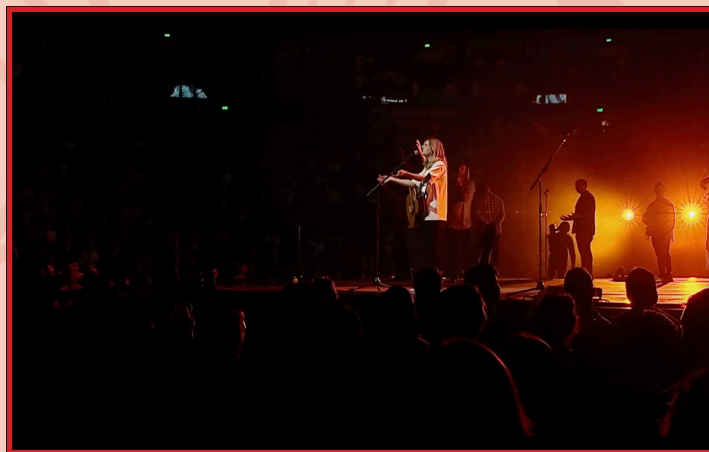
Help us to love and appreciate the gift of love and leadership that God has given us this Pentecost.

Help us understand that God is always the blazing fire above our heads, and that You will guide us where you think is best for us.

Thank you for the opportunities you give and thank you for always being the blessing that we can turn to.

Amen

Song for reflection



Hillsong Worship
What A Beautiful Name

Church Support Church Services

Every Friday night from 7-9pm we have a Brave Youth Group (free of charge) for ages 11-16. We have fun, play games, chill and have some free hot chocolate whilst listening to a short message about life from a Christian perspective!

To find us at: Brave Church, Watson St, Oswaldtwistle, Lancashire, BB5 3HH, UK.

Please visit these church websites to see when their services are taking place:

Great Harwood Christian Fellowship: [Website](#)

St John's and St Augustine's Church, Huncoat: [YouTube channel](#)

St Peter and St Paul's Church, Rishton: [Facebook Page](#)

St. John's Church, Baxenden: [Website](#)

Peel Street Baptist Church: [Website](#)

Ernest Street Baptist Church: [Website](#)

All Saints Church, Clayton-le-Moors: [Facebook Page](#)

St James' Church, Clitheroe: [Website](#)

Burnley Life Church: [Website](#)

St Mary Magdalen's Church, Accrington: [Website](#)

St Andrew's Church, Accrington: [Website](#)

St Peter's Church, Accrington: [Website](#)

Brave Church: [Website](#)

Trinity Church, Great Harwood: [Website](#)



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