

BodyBuilders
20 May 2018 – Pentecost

Share:

- *What does Pentecost mean to you?*
- *How have you experienced it?*



Readings: Ezekiel 37:1–14; Acts 2:1–21; John 15:26-27, 16:4b–15.

Theme: *Very, Very, Quite Contrary* – Ezekiel 37:2, “And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley...”

Cf. “*Mary, Mary, quite contrary, How does your garden grow?*”



Talk/Reflect:

1. Why did Ezekiel see “very many,” “very dry” bones (Ezekiel 37:2)? Who were they? How true is this metaphor for the church/us today (cf. Matthew 9:36)?
2. What is the antidote or solution to their dryness (Ezekiel 37:4)? How do we/you receive this today (cf. 1 Corinthians 14:1)?
3. How do dryness and disconnection work together (Ezekiel 37:7)? How is this an issue today?
4. What do we learn from the early church (Pentecost) about connection (Acts 1:14, 2:1, 42-44)? How might we/you improve in this area?
5. How or why is hopelessness an issue here and today (Ezekiel 37:11)? What is God’s solution (Acts 2:15-18, 33-35)?
6. Where are you seated (Ephesians 2:4-6)?
7. How is the church like an army (Ezekiel 37:10; Ephesians 6:12; Mt. 28:18-20)?



Pray:

- *For the Holy Spirit to fill us with rivers of living water, to connect more closely with the Body of Christ, and to renew our hope and calling in this world and beyond.*

Bless each other by reading Psalm 104:24–35b.

²⁴ O LORD, how manifold are your works!

**In wisdom have you made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.**

²⁵ Here is the sea, great and wide,
which teems with creatures innumerable,
living things both small and great.

²⁶ There go the ships,
and Leviathan, which you formed to play in it.

²⁷ **These all look to you,
to give them their food in due season.**

²⁸ When you give it to them, they gather it up;
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

²⁹ When you hide your face, they are dismayed;
when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

³⁰ When you send forth your Spirit, they are created,

and you renew the face of the ground.

³¹ May the glory of the LORD endure forever;

may the LORD rejoice in his works,

³² who looks on the earth and it trembles,

who touches the mountains and they smoke!

³³ I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

³⁴ May my meditation be pleasing to him,

for I rejoice in the LORD.

³⁵ Bless the LORD, O my soul!

Praise the LORD!