



## A GUST OF WIND (PENTECOST); Acts 2:1-21

A gust of wind blasted through the house in Jerusalem. The disciples jumped up from the table. Andrew grabbed the bread. John and James grabbed the cups. The tablecloth flew into the air. Plates crashed to the floor. The disciples had been celebrating the festival of Pentecost, but now their meal was a mess all over the floor.

Andrew dropped the bread in surprise as a flame of fire floated over each disciple's head. The flames were bright red, orange and yellow. But they were not hot.

Andrew pointed to the flames. "Look!"

The disciples looked. John and James dropped the cups. Peter's and Simon's eyes grew wide. Bartholomew's and Philip's mouths dropped open. Matthew, Thomas and Matthias gasped in surprise. Thaddeus and the other James pointed to Andrew's head. "You have a flame, too!" exclaimed Thaddeus.

Suddenly the disciples began to speak in different languages. Latin, Greek, Arabic—all the languages of the world. They rushed outside.

"We are filled with God's Spirit!" exclaimed Matthew

Philip shouted, "God is the ruler of all!"

The street filled with Jewish people from many countries who were celebrating Pentecost in Jerusalem. Every person, no matter where they had come from, heard the disciples speaking about God's power in their own language.

The people couldn't believe their ears. Some in the crowd sneered. They couldn't believe the disciples could actually speak all the languages. But many other people were amazed.

Peter yelled, "Each of you hears our words in your own language. God's Spirit has made this possible. From now on, God's Spirit will be with everyone who believes in Jesus."

Someone asked, "What should we do?"

"Be sorry for the wrong things you have done," said Peter. "Believe that God really loves you."

The disciples were so happy. Now they knew what Jesus wanted them to do. Jesus wanted the disciples to help everyone know about God's love. So the disciples went to many places, and they told the people about Jesus and about God's promise.

Many people came to hear the disciples share the news of God and Jesus. These people got together to help each other, to eat together, to remember the things Jesus had said and to talk about living in God's way. When people came together like this, they called it a church.