

Prayer Ideas

ALL NATIONS

Visitors were in Jerusalem from 15 nations listed, and maybe more.

- What countries of the world has God brought to your community?
- How many languages can you name that are spoken in your town / your corps? Spend time listing those together.
- Do you know any phrases or words in those languages? For much of history God has sent the Church out to the world, and now in many ways God is sending the world to us.
- How can your corps connect and communicate with those around you?

Draw circles on a map around your corps, town, county, nation, world. Pray into each of these that you would:

- listen well
- learn well
- communicate the gospel effectively
- and love well, before rushing into communicating what you think they need to hear.

MISSIONS MAP

Map out mission activities of the corps and invite people to bring a tealight flame to different areas of the map. Ask the Spirit to come and infuse those activities with holy fire. People might like to make a map of the places in their own life and influence that God has called them to, workplace/school/friendship group etc, as well as corps programmes.

UNITY

The Pentecost story can be seen as a restoration of the Tower of Babel story, where people were separated by language for attempting to reach Heaven in their own strength. In Pentecost, God reaches down to earth with his strength to bring unity. Pray for unity with other churches in your community; how can you pray for and bless them as co-labourers in the gospel?

Pentecost

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HEADBANDS AND TEALIGHTS

Look on ebay for cheap multipacks of headbands. If preparing in advance, a hot glue gun could be used; otherwise, use tape to attach electric tealights to headbands. This can be done in the meeting - have plenty of rolls of tape available for people to build these for each other. Make a headband for the person sat next to you. As they put on the headband, switch on the light and pray for them to be filled with the fire of the Holy Spirit. This visual symbol may feel a little silly or trite, but can lead to powerful times of prayer for each other to experience God showing up in impacting ways.

JESUS IS LORD

Read or display 'Jesus is Lord' in different languages. When available, the pronunciation is in brackets. Can your congregation add any more?

- Jezusi është Zot *Albanian*
- Jesús es el Señor *Spanish* (hezOOs es el senyOR)
- Jésus est le Seigneur *French*
- sa Mesih Rab'dir *Turkish* (ee-saa messy raab dear)
- Jesus ist der Herr *German* (yeazus-ist-der-hair)
- Jesus is die Here *Afrikaans* (yesus-us -dee-heera)
- Yesus adalah Tuhan *Indonesian* (Yay-zuz ah-da-lah Too-hun)
- Jesus do Tuhan *Batak Toba* (Jay-zuz doh Too-hun)
- Jesus é o Senhor *Portuguese* (Yesus e o Senyor)
- Yeshua huh ha Mashiach *Hebrew*
- Gesù é il Signore *Italian*
- Yesu karthavannuh *Malayalam*
- Tamil (Yesuve karththar)
- Arabic (yessua howa el rab)
- Panginoon si Jesus *Tagalog* (Pang-e-no-on si he-sus)
- Isus este Domn *Romanian* (Isus yeste Dom)
- Isus je nas Gospod *Bosnian* (isos ye nash gospod)
- Bulgarian / Russian (Isus ye Gospod)
- Jesus är Herre *Swedish* (Yesus er herre)

List of languages freely made available to share at engageworship.org



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LIGHTING FIRES

Go outside and light fires. Pay attention to the process.

- Is it difficult, does it take a long time?
- Do you need to blow slowly on the spark to help it grow?
- Can you do it without using a lighter, or a fire log, or lighter fluid?
- What about without matches?
- If there is someone who is great at lighting fires, what happens if they let someone else try it?

Many of us are so far removed from the processes that have been essential to survival for most of history, that we miss many elements of metaphor and what God might be wanting to say to us through these embodied, incarnate acts.

- What is fire like?
- Dangerous, cosy, warming, scary, all mixed up together?
- What does this show us about what the Holy Spirit is like?
- Where does the analogy fall down?

countrylife.co.uk/country-life/light-fire-perfectly-every-single-time-172259

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: They were all together in one place.

Response: **Awaiting the promised Holy Spirit.**

Leader: Here we are, all together in one place.

Response: **Come, Holy Spirit, we welcome you, anoint us afresh with your holy fire!**

Leader: Here we are, all together in one place.

Response: **Come, Holy Spirit, equip us for the mission of your Kingdom here in our time and in our community.**

Leader: Here we are all together in one place.

Response: **Let us worship Father, Son and Holy Spirit with thanksgiving, praise and joy!**



Pentecost

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PRAYER

Mighty God and loving Saviour, we gather here together on this Pentecost Sunday, remembering your promise to pour out your Spirit upon all people. We thank you that the Spirit came upon those trembling, frightened first disciples in mighty power, renewing their faith, transforming their lives and empowering their mission.

Father God, thank you that the promise was for all people everywhere, Spirit of truth, come upon us today, just as you promised, and reveal to us more of the way of Christ. We are hungry and thirsty to be filled with deeper faith and greater love to worship you in spirit and truth. Empower us with the gifts we need to work for your Kingdom, to be bold witnesses for you. Inspire us with new vision and purpose, and breathe your power into our ordinary everyday lives. We open our hearts and minds and spirit to your Holy Spirit and know that we receive from you all that we need to live as your people, today and every day. Amen.

INTERCESSION – THE TRANSFORMING SPIRIT

These prayers can be read by different people/children and the response by all. It could be put on a presentation slide. It can be adapted and used flexibly.

Holy Spirit,
coming as wind and fire, free and irrepressible, we pray today for all who long for change and for all who fear it.

We think of the poor and the hungry, the homeless and the refugee, the sick and the unemployed, the downtrodden and the oppressed - these, and so many others, who yearn for a new beginning, an opportunity to start afresh.

May their prayers be answered and their dreams realised.

As you came at Pentecost, come again today.

We pray for those who see change as a threat - a sweeping away of everything that is tried and trusted, and the imposition of unknown challenges and an uncertain future.

May they rest secure in the knowledge that, whatever else may change, you will remain constant.

As you came at Pentecost, come again today.



Pentecost

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Holy Spirit,
coming gently as a dove, we pray for all who long for peace, and all who have lost sight of what peace really means.

We think of those in homes racked by tensions, families split by petty disputes, communities scarred by prejudice and intolerance, and countries torn apart by war.

May dialogue triumph over confrontation, and unity replace division.

As you came at Pentecost, come again today.

We pray for those who fill their lives with noise or activity - afraid of facing themselves in a time of quiet reflection, attempting somehow to mask their sense of emptiness; and we pray, too, for those who seek fulfilment in that which can never finally satisfy - wealth, possessions, power, success.

May they discover the secret of true contentment, the peace that passes understanding which only you can give.

As you came at Pentecost, come again today.

Holy Spirit,
you changed the lives of the apostles and of countless people through history, just as you are changing our lives in turn, each renewed through your sovereign power.

Come now and change our world in all its need, so that it may enjoy hope and peace, healing and harmony, and so that all may come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ our Lord.

As you came at Pentecost, come again today.

We ask it for his name's sake.

Amen.

Prayers for all Seasons Book 2, Nick Fawcett. Permissions given for use by those leading public worship

