# Welcome to ‘Pentecost in Practice’, a resource that invites a personal response to God’s gifts in our lives.

## Background

At Pentecost, we celebrate God’s gifts:

* The gift of the Holy Spirit, the breath of God
* The gift of the Church, with Pentecost representing the Church’s ‘birthday’
* **The gift of Jesus that we can offer to our local community**

The prayer is that this resource will help with all of the above, especially the third point (sharing Jesus with our community).

‘Community’ can feel overwhelmingly big, which is why it has been broken down to the following four prompts:

* **Home**
* **Neighbourhood**
* **Workplace**
* **Online**

Some might be more relevant than others, which is why everyone is free to respond to the prompt(s) that they are most drawn to.

## Using the Resource

There are many ways to engage with this resource:

* As a personal, self-guided exercise
* As a self-guided exercise in a small group, with an opportunity to share with others at the end
* As ‘stations’ during a Pentecost service or prayer group (you could include objects for each station, eg a doll’s house for ‘home’ and a computer for ‘online’, with the four prompts offered as handouts or posters)
* Emailed out or shared on social media as Pentecost challenges

You will find poster versions of this resource on the Pentecost page: <https://www.salvationist.org.uk/resources/key-dates/pentecost-sunday>. These might be more appropriate for ‘stations’ during a service, or for sharing on social media. Click ‘DOWNLOAD ALL RESOURCES’ on the Pentecost page to access individual PNG images of the posters.

# Home

‘Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.’ **(Acts 2:2)**

### Household Rhythms

Feel free to spend time in quiet reflection, inviting the Holy Spirit to fill your home with his presence. Consider how he can transform your daily interactions and routines.

It might help to reflect on your household rhythms, and the different ways that you are / are not aware of the breath of God:

In your morning routine........................................................................

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During mealtimes................................................................................

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Washing, cleaning and tidying.................................................................

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Welcoming guests...............................................................................

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In your evening routine.........................................................................

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### Gratitude

Take some time to reflect on the blessings in your home and express gratitude for them. How can recognising these gifts change your perspective and actions within your household?

Thank you for....................................................................................

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### Forgiveness and Reconciliation

Think about any unresolved conflicts or tensions in your home. Pray for the Holy Spirit’s guidance in seeking forgiveness and reconciliation.

# Neighbourhood

‘When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.’ **(Acts 2:1)**

### Love Your Neighbour

Reflect on your role in your neighbourhood. Pray for the Holy Spirit to show you what your neighbours need, and ways to connect more deeply with them.

It might help to list some neighbours by name, praying for them individually. How can you be Jesus’ hands and feet to them?

**Name**..............................................................................................

Needs..............................................................................................

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How to connect more deeply?.................................................................

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**Name**..............................................................................................

Needs..............................................................................................

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How to connect more deeply?.................................................................

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**Name**..............................................................................................

Needs..............................................................................................

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How to connect more deeply?.................................................................

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### Acts of Kindness

Reflect on how small acts of kindness can make a big difference. How can you incorporate Spirit-led kindness into your daily interactions in your neighbourhood, including with passers-by?

# Workplace

‘Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken.’ **(Acts 2:5-6)**

### International Workplaces

Our workplaces are increasingly multicultural, with more chances to work alongside people from ‘every nation under heaven’! You might like to think about the different cultures that are represented in your workplace, asking the Holy Spirit for opportunities to learn more about them.

### Workplace Gifts

Take some time to think about your gifts and those of your colleagues. You can thank God for his generosity in giving the gifts of organisation, communication, inspiration, encouragement, fun, leadership … Whatever it might be!

Thank you for my gifts of......................................................................

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Thank you for my colleagues’ gifts of........................................................

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### Compassion and Support

Reflect on how you can show compassion and support to your colleagues. Pray for opportunities to be a source of encouragement and help to those in need.

# Online

‘They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.’ **(Acts 2:3-4)**

### Speaking Life Online

At Pentecost, the disciples ‘were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues’. You might like to use this opportunity to reflect on the online spaces that you inhabit. What kinds of ‘tongues’ are you speaking in these spaces?

Here are a few questions that might be useful to ponder:

* Are the words you share online Spirit-filled?
* Do they point to Jesus?
* Do they exhibit the gifts of the Spirit mentioned in **Isaiah 11:2** (wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge and fear of God)?
* Are you speaking with the breath of God?

### Mindful Consumption

Reflect on the content you consume online. Pray for discernment to engage with content that uplifts and inspires, and to avoid content that detracts from your spiritual growth.

It might help to reflect on your online consumption, and the different ways that you are / are not aware of Jesus’ presence:

On social media..................................................................................

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In videos watched online.......................................................................

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In podcasts.......................................................................................

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In news read online.............................................................................

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In emerging technologies, such as AI.........................................................

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