

Worship Date: May 23, 2010

Worship Theme: The Spirit Is in Us

Scripture Reference: Acts 2:1-21

Materials: MP3 Player or IPOD (any portable music player)

I love to listen to music. Whenever I am driving in my car, I always have the MP3 player turned on -- or I am listening to a tape or a CD. Whenever I go for a walk, I like to take along this MP3 Player (change based on prop) so I can enjoy listening to music as I walk.

Some of you may have a MP3 player or IPOD similar to this one. If you do, then you know that before it can make music, it must have batteries in it. The batteries give the MP3 player the power that it needs to be able to play. Without batteries, this MP3 player can do nothing. Oh, it will still look like a MP3 player, but without batteries, it has no power to do what it was created to do.

Before Jesus returned to heaven to be with his Father, he told his disciples that they would do even greater things than he had done when he was on earth. Now Jesus did some pretty great things, didn't he? He healed the sick. He turned water into wine. He made the blind to see and the crippled to walk. Where were the disciples going to get the power to do such great things? Jesus promised them that he would ask the Father to send the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit would give them the power to do great and mighty things.

It happened just as Jesus said it would. On the day which is called Pentecost, the disciples were all together in one place. The Bible tells us that there was a sound from heaven like a mighty rushing wind and it filled the place where the disciples were gathered. Then, there were flames of fire that appeared and rested upon each of them. When these things happened, the disciples were filled with power and began to preach and teach about Jesus. They were able to do things that they had never done before because of the power of the Holy Spirit in them.

Did you know that you and I have that very same power available to us today? The Bible says that "all who are led by the Spirit are children of God." We who are the children of God have the power to do great and mighty things, not in our own strength, but through the power of the Holy Spirit that is within us.

Oh, one more thing about my MP3 player -- even if it has batteries, it won't make music until it is turned on. That is true of you and me too. Some of us have the power of the Holy Spirit that Jesus promised, but we haven't turned it on. Isn't it about time that we turned on the power that is within us?

Dear Father, help us to be turned on for Jesus so that we can do great and mighty things through the power of Your Holy Spirit. Amen.