

In a Few Days

" For forty days after Jesus had suffered and died, He proved in many ways that He had been raised from death. He appeared to His apostles and spoke to them about God's kingdom. While He was still with them, He said: 'Don't leave Jerusalem yet. Wait here for the Father to give you the Holy Spirit, just as I told you He has promised to do. John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'" (Acts 1:3-5 CEV) Few - being more than one but an indefinitely small in number.

For the past 5 weeks (excluding Mother's Day) we have studied what the disciples may have been experiencing as they waited for the Promise of the Father. We know the Holy Spirit came on the Day of Pentecost and has never left, but we can still relate to the waiting process.

Sometimes God gives us a promise that seems to take forever to happen. One thing is sure. We can trust Him. If He speaks to your heart concerning a matter it will happen. After all, at His command the world came into existence, water turned to wine, lepers were cleansed, multitudes were fed with little resources, sins were forgiven. When Jesus gives a command miracles happen. We can trust Him. We can trust His word. Jesus encouraged the disciples while He was with them. Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me." (John 14:1)

The disciples may not have known what the Promise would look like, but they knew He would be a Helper and the Spirit of truth who would dwell with them forever and be in them. (John 14:16-17) They knew they would receive power to be witnesses for Jesus. (Acts 1:8) We may not know exactly what the fulfillment of God's promises to us may look like or how they may come, but we can rest assured that if God spoke something to us, He will make good on His word.

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Object lesson: Buy or make a small gift for your child to be given to them after next week's lesson. This week tell them you have something for them, but they will have to wait a few days to receive it. You don't need to give a specific time. A few days is all you need to say. You can describe it a little if you wish without divulging too much about it. Next week before the gift is presented, ask them questions about their waiting experience, ie. How did it feel to wait? How many times they thought about it? Were they excited? etc. It will be a fun experience for everyone. Let them know waiting patiently and faithfully is a normal part of living.

Abundant blessings,

Pastor Vanessa  
Bethel Temple Children's Ministry