

## **“Pentecost”**

**Start Talking:** Share about your week with others. What’s going well? What’s something we can be praying together about?

**Key Scripture: Read the following together.** *“You shall count seven weeks for yourself; begin to count the seven weeks from the time you begin to put the sickle to the grain. Then you shall keep the Feast of Weeks to the Lord your God with the tribute of a freewill offering from your hand, which you shall give as the Lord your God blesses you. You shall rejoice before the Lord your God, you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant, the Levite who is within your gates, the stranger and the fatherless and the widow who are among you, at the place where the Lord your God chooses to make His name abide. And you shall remember that you were a slave in Egypt, and you shall be careful to observe these statutes.”*

*Deuteronomy 16:9-12 NKJV*

1. What does this scripture tell me about me?
2. What does this scripture tell me about God?

**Start Sharing: Choose a question (or several) to create openness and discussion.**

Think about the disciples waiting for 10 days for the Holy Spirit after Jesus ascended. How does this highlight the importance of waiting on God’s timing? Can you think of a time you waited on God’s timing for His promise? How did He work in you in the waiting?

Discuss the contrast with the events of Pentecost and the story of the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11:1-9) in terms of human effort versus God’s empowerment. Share about a time you have done a “good work” on your own strength, and a time you knew it was God’s timing and His hand that brought a promise to pass.

Why is it crucial to ensure that our efforts and initiatives are birthed by God rather than relying solely on human strength and ambition?

What does it mean to live under the influence of the Holy Spirit rather than the world, and how does this transform our daily lives? How can we fully yield our lives to Jesus, and why is this surrender necessary for experiencing true peace and righteousness?

How does the Holy Spirit work to turn people to Jesus, and what role do we play in this process as followers of Christ?

**Start Praying: Pray together and for one another.**

*“Heavenly Father, we surrender ourselves to the inner work of the Holy Spirit. We humbly ask you to help us submit to your timing, instead of conjuring up our own works. We long to see Your kingdom come and Your will be done. Amen.”*

