

RCMI L-Path Teaching

January 29, 2022

TITLE: EMPOWERED FOR MISSION (Holy Spirit led Mission)

BIG IDEA: The Spirit of God will always lead us into the mission wherever we are placed.

VERSE: Acts 2 2:1-4, 14-21, 36-41

Acts 2:1-4

1 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Acts 2:14-21

¹⁴Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. ¹⁵These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: ¹⁷"In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. ¹⁸Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. ¹⁹I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. ²⁰The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. ²¹And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

Acts 2:36-41

³⁶"Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah." ³⁷When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" ³⁸Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call." ⁴⁰With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation."⁴¹Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

INTRODUCTION:

- Mission is from the Latin verb, '**Missio**' which means being sent with a purpose.
- Every Christian and Church has a mission.
- RCMI Mission and Vision Statement
 - Mission: Passion for God. Compassion for people. Light to the world
 - Vision: "To be a light that will draw men to Jesus Christ."
- God's mission for the Believers is to Witness.

- *Acts 1:8 - But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*
- Christians are called to have a heart for those who do not know Christ and be able to share the Gospel with them.

THE POWER TO DO THE MISSION:

- *Acts 1:8 – But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*
- Power came from the Gk word '**dynamis**' which means, power, ability, miracle, excessive, mighty, brilliance. It is supernatural. It is way above what is normal.
- Jesus is telling them, you cannot do it alone, or by ordinary ways. You need the power of the Holy Spirit to do it.
- Why do we need the power? Because God wants us to be victorious!
- For 2023, we need the power of the Holy Spirit to be victorious.
- **Year of Holy Spirit Empowerment**
 - *God is a giving God. He pulls from the unsearchable, limitless resources of His glory to give us strength and power in our inner being through the Holy Spirit. So live victoriously in this life by God's grace –being empowered to accomplish God's purposes through the Holy Spirit and living in the fullness of God.*

EMPOWERED FOR MISSION:

1. Empowered to speak

- Acts 2:4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.*
- v14 Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. 15 These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! 16 No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel.*
- v40 With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation."*
- The Holy Spirit's power will enable us to speak boldly.
- He will give us the Words we need speak, and He will be the one to convict, and convince people to receive Jesus in their lives.
 - Luke 12:11-12 - 11 "When you are brought before synagogues, rulers and authorities, do not worry about how you will defend yourselves or what you will say, 12 for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say."
- We all know the message, let us speak (witness) through the power of the Holy Spirit.

2. Empowered to perform miracles.

- Acts 2:43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.*

- b. *Acts 3:2-6 - 2 Now a man who was lame from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. 3 When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. 4 Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, "Look at us!" 5 So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them. 6 Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk."*
- c. God knows there are situations that will need a miracle. That is why He gives us the power to do it.
- d. Miracles plays a big part on our Christian testimony and witnessing.
 - i. *Heb. 2:3-4 (NLT) - 3 So what makes us think we can escape if we ignore this great salvation that was first announced by the Lord Jesus himself and then delivered to us by those who heard him speak? 4 And God confirmed the message by giving signs and wonders and various miracles and gifts of the Holy Spirit whenever he chose.*
- e. Expect miracles to happen as we witness Christ to others.

3. Empowered to face persecution.

- a. *Acts 2:12-13 - 12 Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?" 13 Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."*
- b. As we witness Jesus to others, we encounter people who do not believe. There will be opposition.
- c. Some people will make fun of us. Worst some will be imprisoned.
 - i. *Acts 5:17-18 - 17 Then the high priest and all his associates, who were members of the party of the Sadducees, were filled with jealousy. 18 They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail.*
- d. When we face persecutions, the Holy Spirit will empower us to continue.
 - i. *Acts 5:40-42 - 40 His speech persuaded them. They called the apostles in and had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. 41 The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. 42 Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.*
- e. Christians never stop! The Holy Spirit power in us.

4. Empowered to grow.

- a. God's mission did not end when people received Jesus in their lives. We need to help them grow inside the church.
- b. *Acts 2: 42-47 - 42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate*

together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

- c. Spiritual growth will result to numerical growth.
- d. As people come together, the Church will become stronger. And more people will come.
 - i. *Acts 9:31 Then the church throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria enjoyed a time of peace and was strengthened. Living in the fear of the Lord and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it increased in numbers.*

CONCLUSION:

- Where do we need to go?
 - *Acts 1:8 – But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*
- We need to start where we are, in our Jerusalem. Father, mother, spouse, children. The place where we need to start is in our home.
- Then we slowly progress to those who are near, people we know, Judea and Samaria. Our relatives, friends, officemates, schoolmates. People that we can reach.
- Then we go beyond the people we know, to the ends of the earth. We can participate in evangelism programs, missionary trips, other church activities.
- The greatest missionary movements since the time of Acts were not done inside of the church but outside of it.
- One of RCMI Declaration is **Year of Anointed Heralds**
 - *The Lord has anointed you to go and preach the gospel to all creation. As you go, signs and wonders will accompany you; there will be an alignment between the work of the Spirit and the Word of God as you share it.*
- This year 2023, let us commit ourselves to witness.

DISCUSSION:

1. What is your key challenge to witness Jesus Christ to others?
2. How can you overcome the challenges?
3. Who are the people that you would like to reach out to this 2023?