

# THE MISSION

## A 50 Day Spiritual Encounter & Renewal



### Appreciation

Thank you for sharing in our 50 day journey of faith. **Today, Sunday May 31st is Day 50, Pentecost – the Summit.** We have counted our days to make our days count. We have a story to tell, in the ups & downs twists & turns of life, God has been present and will never leave or forsake us.

### Pentecost is Go Day

Summer initiates a season of travel, warm weather and long days lead us to be mobile. Many of the first Christians gathered for a Jewish festival called Pentecost – 50 days after Passover/Easter. This festival initiated their “spiritual summer.” We read about this in Acts 2:1ff. What they learned is that God’s provision **awakens a mission spirit within us** – we want everyone to know this God who helps us through all our seasons of life.

## The 50 Day Journey ...

Our journey from Easter to today has taken us through seven weekly themes for the purpose of spiritual growth.

1. **Planting.** Pea plants helped us visualize the opportunity of growing with God. Jesus’ death, burial & resurrection lead us to be confident in troubled times (1 Cor. 15:35-58).
2. **Wonder.** Our eyes witness God’s incredible power to bring life from the ground. We marvel at nature (moon & stars, Psa. 8) and the new sprouts that showcase God’s handiwork (1 Cor. 15:36-38). We marvel at the master Gardner.
3. **God’s Protection.** Spring time is a delicate season for growing crops — storms can kill an entire season of growth. Our soul is similar as we go through seasons of testing, anxiety, COVID-19. Bad things may occur, but God is ever close by (Heb. 11:1-40).
4. **Students.** The first of three resources for spiritual growth is the Word of God. God has provided a deep well of knowledge that can transform our lives (Psa. 119:105, “Your Word is a lamp unto my feet ...”).
5. **Church.** A second resource for good living is a body of people who share the road with you. People who are also being changed from darkness to light. God has blessed us with a faith family (Eph. 3:14-21).
6. **Holy Spirit.** A third resources for spiritual transformation is the Holy Spirit — the Sacred Wind, or Breath of God. Jesus promised the abiding presence of God’s unbiased Holy Spirit in us personally and together as the Church (Acts 2:38-39).
7. **Ruth.** This little book tucked away in the Hebrew Bible is a short story capturing the experience of a 50 day season of life in miniature. God is working below the surface to provide hope in the midst of dark times. “May the Lord be with you” Ruth 2:4).

