
Reminders

Enroll to participate in the various PYCD Talent Competitions
(go to www.pycd.org for further details)

Purchase your tickets to see the "Promise" play during the church retreat.
The church retreat will be from Sept 5 -7. Cost of tickets is \$21/person.

Weekly Schedule

Wed, June 11th (Lewisville) Abie & Suby's residence (7 PM)

Thurs, June 12th (Mesquite) Mammen & Ponnamma's residence (7 PM)

Fri, June 13th (Mesquite) Thampi & Lissy's residence (7 PM)

Sat, June 14th (Mesquite) IPC Family Conference
Mesquite Convention Center & Hampton Inn

Prayer for the Nations: Algeria

An Algerian Christian detained for five days for carrying a Bible and personal Bible study books was given a one-year suspended prison sentence and a \$460 CAD fine on April 29, according to a May 9 report from Compass Direct. A court in Djelfa, 240 km south of Algiers, charged the 33-year-old Christian who converted from Islam with "printing, storing and distributing illegal religious material." The believer, who requested anonymity for security reasons, told fellow Christians in his home city of Tiaret that police pressured him to return to Islam while in custody.

The conviction is the latest in a wave of detentions and court cases against Algeria's Christians. Since January, police and provincial officials have ordered the closure of up to half of the country's 50 estimated Christian congregations.

Pray for the Algerian Christian to find joy and peace in Christ in the midst of opposition for his allegiance to Christ (Acts 5:41). Pray that God will embolden Algerian Christians to spread the Gospel in their nation.

*http://news.christiansunite.com/Religion_News/religion07199.shtml



metrochurch
of God



*Celebrating the Presence of God
Demonstrating the Love of God
Communicating the Word of God
Educating the People of God*

June 8, 2008

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God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.
(Psalm 46:1,7)

Welcome

“ They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them” (Acts 2: 3)

Greetings and praise the Lord as we continue to worship the Lord on this day of resurrection. It is our prayer that the Almighty Lord may bless you abundantly and may minister to you in a special way.

Last week we had an inspiring message about the Pentecostal identity. Fire has been used as a symbol of Pentecostal identity. It is also true that often we tend to give more importance to the calling down fire experience and less on the carrying the fire with us. Of course walking through fire is our daily struggle and we can understand the implications of that for our lives.

On the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples gathered in the upper room, tongues of fire came and rested on each one of them. On the other hand when Jesus came out of the water after his baptism we see Holy Spirit came in the form of dove. There is an evident message here for us. Jesus Christ being the Son of God and second person in Trinity was sinless and thus Holy Spirit came in the likeness of dove a bird known for its meekness and purity. On the other hand when it came upon the early disciples the Spirit came in the form of fire as a cleansing agent to make them clean and holy. One of the important functions that the fire does is cleansing and purifying us from our sins and making us whole.

We cannot undermine the importance of a holy and pure life if we have been touched by Holy Spirit fire. This fire will change the way we used to live to conform us to the image of Christ. The gift of the Holy Spirit anointing is not far behind or before the fruit of the Spirit. If we claim that we have experienced the Holy Spirit fire baptism, it will be evident in the way that we conduct ourselves- not just during times of worship but in practical day-to-day Christian living. If we fail to produce fruits of the Spirit then we need to reconsider what kind of a spirit have we received. On the other hand, there is also a blessing if we have the fire of the Spirit within us. It means that we can have the assurance of the Spirit in our battles with the flesh by guiding us and sustaining us through the period of trials and temptations. The fire came and rested on each one of them, which again highlights the importance that living a pure life is not a corporate responsibility but each individual's responsibility. Nobody else can live a holy life for you- you will have to face your giants and subdue them by virtue of the Holy Spirit fire that is within you.

It is our prayer that the Holy Spirit fire will cleanse and purify us on the inside and use us for the glory of God.

In Christ Alone,
Pastor Satish Kumar

Sermon Notes