

Johns Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church

605 Geneva Highway/Post Office Box 311015

Enterprise, Alabama 36331-1015

www.johnschapelamec.org (334) 393-2661

Reverend Willie White, Jr., Pastor

The Sermon by Pastor Willie White, Jr.

May 31, 2020

SPECIAL PENTECOST SUNDAY MESSAGE

“CATCH ON FIRE!”

Acts 2: 3 = And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire and it sat upon each of them.

The story is told about this guy who went to chop down trees. He used an axe to do the work and so he was able to chop down a few trees every day. But then one day he found out about a power chain saw. The salesman told the guy, well look, with this saw you can chop down fifty more trees than you can chop now with your own efforts. The guy was quickly sold and purchased the power saw. He went home and immediately tried the saw out. The next day he came back to the store where he bought the power saw and put it down on the counter. He said "Man this is a piece of junk!" The salesman replied, "What do you mean piece of junk?" "I used this thing, and I would normally chop down four or five trees a day. The man replied, "I used this thing and I didn't even get one finished." The salesman looking puzzled and asked to take a look at the equipment. The guy handed it to him and the salesman took it and pulled the cord. "VROOM!!!" The guy who purchased the saw looked surprised and said "What's that noise?" He had purchased that saw and taken it home not understanding what he had.

The day of **Pentecost** reveals to us as believers, what we have. **Pentecost**, 50 days after the resurrection of Jesus The Christ, and shows us how Christ went up and The Holy Spirit came down. **Pentecost**, 50 days after the resurrection of Jesus The Christ reveals to us as believers how the Holy Spirit came in the disciples and the disciples went out. **Pentecost**, 50 days after the resurrection of Jesus The Christ teaches us as children of the living God how the Holy Spirit was external; now the Holy Spirit is internal. **Pentecost**, 50 days after the resurrection of Jesus the Christ--This day makes it crystal clear how the Holy Spirit was temporarily upon the people; now the Holy Spirit is permanent within the people. **Pentecost**, 50 days after the resurrection of Jesus the Christ--This day, is the day that the early church was birthed. **CATCH ON FIRE!**

Here in the book of Acts, this book highlights the activities of the Holy Spirit. This book, the book of Acts, demonstrates how today's church is commanded by God to hatch, match and dispatch. The book of Acts is a book that pushes the church to remain a **MOVEMENT and not a MONUMENT**. Here in chapter two we will uncover 3 points that will teach us how to **CATCH ON FIRE!**

Let us glean from verses 1 & 2, so that we can pick up **point number one**.

1: Assignment (task, function, duty). In order for us to shift from efficiency to effectiveness, cooperation and calibration have to be at the top of our agenda. The text says **ALL with one accord in one place**. Cooperation will help get the task done. This is how you set a church on **fire**; we must continue to work together. God may give you an assignment that seems impossible but it can be done with God's help. Don't let the size of the assignment keep you from doing the task. With God's help it can be done. **CATCH ON FIRE!**

Let us unpack verses 41 so we can pin point, **point number two**.

2: Adjustment (change, modification, mending). Here in our text this morning, the bible says "unto them." God can change people, not you!! God can work a complete change in even the most selfish, hateful and evil heart. We can't convict nor can we convert; only God can do that, but we can challenge the people to live a better life. In order for the church to **CATCH ON FIRE** the church must understand that God can change the worst in us. As people see these changes, they become curious. We can use these opportunities to introduce them to Christ. In Verse 41 Peter preached, and three thousand people joined the church in one day. **CATCH ON FIRE!**

As I close from the text. Let us look at verses 43-47 and we will discover **Point number three**.

3: Agreement (unity, harmony, promise). Verse 47: Praising God and having favor with all the people and the LORD added to the church daily such as should be saved.

Jesus' great desire for His disciples was that they would become one. (John 17:11). Jesus wanted his followers to be unified as a powerful witness to the reality of God's love. Are you helping to unify the body of Christ? This is how the church can **CATCH ON FIRE**. The church can **CATCH ON FIRE** by avoiding gossip. The church can **CATCH ON FIRE** by building others up. The church can **CATCH ON FIRE** by working together. The church can **CATCH ON FIRE** by giving God your time and your money. The church can **CATCH ON FIRE** by exalting Christ. The church can **CATCH ON FIRE** by refusing to get sidetracked fussing over small stuff. The church can **CATCH ON FIRE** by loving each other.

CATCH ON FIRE!!

I LOVE BEING YOUR PASTOR PASTOR WHITE HOT DOG

Grab, Drop & Go Message – “Grab a Sermon, Drop Offering and Go Home” - Coronavirus Pandemic 2019-2020

*Johns Chapel
African Methodist Episcopal Church*
605 Geneva Highway/Post Office Box 311015
Enterprise, Alabama 36331 334-393-2661
The Pastor's Contact Info

Pastor Willie White, Jr. 2501 Scott Road, Dothan Alabama 36303 | 334-701-5853
williewhite203@gmail.com

Please check texts, e-mails and website for updates johnschapelamec.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS –SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2020



--**TODAY –9:00 a.m. – PENTECOST SUNDAY CELEBRATION.** Pastor White's message will be shown live on FaceBook. Enjoy other messages and services at church website: johnschapelamec.org

EARLIER TIME FOR WORSHIP – 9:00 A.M. WHEN TEMPERATURES ARE LOWER!

--We will continue our current worship system until the AME Church issues guidance, which the Pastor will pass along to us. In the meantime, please continue to pray, and heed all public directives regarding the **Coronavirus Pandemic. STAY SAFE – STAY HOME** as much as possible Stay abreast of the latest directives. www.cdc.gov <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov> www.aarp.org

--Pastor White thanks everyone for your participation in our **Memorial Day Celebration** on last Sunday. Let us remember to pray for and support families who lost loved ones. And also remember to **Thank a Veteran or Active Duty Military!**

--Pastor White presents: **"SERMON DASH"**. You may receive a hard copy or a CD/DVD of sermon via text, phone call, e-mail or word of mouth, etc., and we will get the sermon to you.

OPPORTUNITIES TO WORSHIP & SERVE – Check e-mails and text messages for more info.

--**MONDAY – FRIDAY. Summer Feeding program begins on tomorrow June 1. Carry-out Meals for Children ages 1-18 here at JC. 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m..** For more info, please see Pastor White.

--**EACH WEDNESDAY – JC Bible Study via conference call - 7:00 p.m. Dial-in # 605-313-5111 Access code 737936**

--**EACH SUNDAY – Worship service at 9:00 a.m.. Church School Lesson Summary 10:15-10:45 via conference call. Dial-in # 605-313-5111 Access code 737936. Grab & Go – 10:45-11:45; Drive Up Worship in Cars – 12 Noon**

--**JC MEMBERS ARE OBEYING THE LAW AND RESPONDING TO THE CENSUS.** -- Pastor White is asking Class Leaders to please check on all class members to see how they are doing and also inquire if they have completed the Census. If not, please emphasize the importance, and let them know help is available.

Volunteers: LauReen McDaniel 334-470-1816; Franklin Simmons 334-494-2377; & Marge Simmons 334-477-1962.

26 Households reporting! OUTSTANDING! If you haven't completed the census, please do so today and let **Sister Marge know.** Check out the website at www.census2020.gov and encourage others to respond. .

PRAYER LIST Week of May 31-June 6, 2020

- Sister Eleanor Bailey
- **Jennifer Bigham – Doing well at home**
- Debra D. Brown -Address: 74 Davis Street, Charles Town, WV 25414-
- Sister Geraldine Booth
- Sister Brenda Crawford
- Sister Debra Fay Brown – Bereavement
- Caiden M. Gary, Grandson of Sis C. Jones
- Sister Annie Pearl Frazier
- Sister Ruby Grayer
- Sister Dorothy Holmes
- Sister Kim Jackson—Sister of Bro. Golden
- Sister Constance Jones & Family



- Sister Mable Mays
- Sister Ann McGaughey
- Dr. Russell Nichols—Continuing to progress
- Sister Minnie Powell, Mother of Sis. White
- Sister Rosetta White & Brother Willie White, Sr. — Parents of Pastor White
- Sister Johnnie Sanders
- Brother Larry Wilson—Husband of Sis. Shun Wilson
- Sister Eloise Williams
- The United States of America & the World**
- *New entries in bold print
- Remember to pray for and check on our shut-in members.**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- May 31 DeShaan Mills
- May 31 Larissa Chambers
- June 1 Robert E. Crawford
- June 4 Gloria Morris

- June 5 Benny Lamar Benson
- June 6 Naijeonna Tyson



No anniversaries on record this week.

**CONGRATS TO OUR 2020 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE: KALEEA TAYLOR
AND TO ALL OF OUR STUDENTS ON YOUR 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR ACHIEVEMENTS!**

Our Prayers are with you as you adjust to a changing world.

In all they ways, continue to acknowledge God!

