



CELL GROUP MATERIAL

24 MAY 2026

24 MAY SERMON

PENTECOST: THE POWER TO STEP FORWARD

PASTOR BOBBY MATHEW

Ice Breaker Question: Share about a time when you had to step forward into something uncomfortable or unfamiliar. What gave you the courage to do it?

Sermon Summary

On Pentecost Sunday, Pastor Bobby explored Acts 2 and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The central message: God's Spirit empowers ordinary people to step forward despite failures, limitations, and fears. When Peter stood up on the day of Pentecost, he demonstrated five key ways the Spirit helps believers step forward in their calling.

Key Takeaways & Discussion Questions

1. Stepping Forward from Failure

Key Point: Peter had denied Jesus three times, yet God restored and used him powerfully on Pentecost.

Discussion Questions:

- How does Peter's story of failure and restoration encourage you personally?
- What past failures or mistakes have held you back from stepping forward in your faith?
- How does understanding God's restoration change the way you view your own "cracked vessel" moments?

Scripture to Read: Acts 2:14, John 21:15-19

2. Stepping Forward Together

Key Point: Peter stood with the eleven disciples in unity, despite their history of competition and conflict.

Discussion Questions:

- Why is unity so important when stepping forward in God's purposes?
- What challenges do you face in maintaining unity with other believers?
- How does coming together in prayer help break down walls between believers?

Reflection: The sermon mentioned that "love covers a multitude of faults" and "bears with one another." How can you practice this in your relationships this week?

3. Stepping Forward as Ordinary People

Key Point: The Holy Spirit is poured out on ALL flesh—young, old, male, female, employees, employers—not just special or elite people.

Discussion Questions:

- Do you ever feel "too ordinary" to be used by God? Why or why not?
- What does it mean to you that God uses people with just "five loaves and two fish"?
- What supernatural gifts or callings might God be inviting you to step into?

Scripture to Read: Acts 2:17-18, Mark 16:17-18

4. Stepping Forward into the Supernatural

Key Point: Believers are called to prophesy, see visions, dream dreams, lay hands on the sick, and operate in spiritual gifts.

Discussion Questions:

- Have you ever experienced or witnessed God working supernaturally through an "ordinary" believer?
- What fears or doubts hold you back from praying for others or stepping out in faith?
- How can we cultivate an openness to the supernatural work of the Holy Spirit?

Challenge: This week, pray for someone who needs healing or encouragement, trusting God for His supernatural work.

5. Stepping Forward So Others Can Step Forward

Key Point: When Peter stepped forward, 3,000 others responded and stepped forward to salvation.

Discussion Questions:

- Who in your life needs to hear the gospel message?
- How might your willingness to step forward impact others around you?
- What would it look like for you to be bold in sharing your faith this week?

Scripture to Read: Acts 2:37-41

Practical Applications

Choose one or more actions to commit to this week:

1. **Receive/Renew the Baptism of the Holy Spirit** - Set aside time to worship, pray in the Spirit, and ask God to fill you afresh with His power.
2. **Step Forward from Failure** - Identify one area where past failure has held you back. Pray for God's restoration and take one small step forward in faith.
3. **Pursue Unity** - Reach out to a fellow believer you've had tension with. Practice bearing with one another in love.
4. **Pray for Someone** - Ask God to show you someone who needs prayer for healing, breakthrough, or encouragement. Step forward and pray for them this week.
5. **Share Your Faith** - Identify one person in your sphere of influence who needs to hear about Jesus. Pray for an opportunity to share the gospel with them.

Prayer Focus

Group Prayer Time:

- Pray for fresh filling of the Holy Spirit for each group member
- Pray for boldness to step forward despite fear or past failures
- Pray for unity within the church and your small group
- Pray for opportunities to minister supernaturally to others
- Pray for those who don't know Jesus, that they would step forward in response to the gospel

Consider praying in the Spirit together as a group, following the example of the early church.

Closing Reflection

"God doesn't ask a lot of us. He just wants us to be open. He wants us to be open and reach out to receive from Him, to worship Him, and then He gives as He chooses."

Final Question: What is one specific way you will step forward this week in response to what God has spoken to you today?
