



PART 2: THE HERALD

Sermon Notes

Text: Luke 3:2-18

Intro:

The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada (PAOC) turns 100 this year. The PAOC has always emphasized:

1. Mission
2. The empowerment of the Holy Spirit

“A Pentecostal is simply a Christian who believes that the book of Acts provides a model for the contemporary church.” ~William Menzies

The Herald

John the Baptizer serves as a herald of the coming Messiah, Jesus. He is the last of the Old Testament prophets, serving as a bridge to a new way to hear God’s word.

Hebrews 1:1-2

The Holy Spirit used John to create a sense of anticipation.

Are you prepared for what God wants to do in your life?

Are we prepared for what God wants to do among us, by his Holy Spirit, in our generation?

Luke 3:16 - “I baptize you with water...He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

Baptism has an agent, an element and a candidate

- Water baptism - Agent: John, Element: water, Candidate: repentant believer
- Spirit baptism - Agent: Jesus, Element: Holy Spirit, Candidate: believer

Conclusion:

Be prepared!

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. What is something that's coming up soon in your life for which you are preparing (a vacation, a new baby, a visit from the relative, etc)? What preparations are you making? What would happen if you weren't prepared?
2. What stood out to you about Sunday's sermon? What was interesting? Confusing? Weird? Thought provoking?

Study & Discussion:

1. Did you grow up in a Pentecostal church? When you're looking for a church to attend, how much consideration do you give to denominational labels? What does "Pentecostal" mean to you?
2. Read Luke 3:7-14. John had strong words for those who came to witness his ministry. What do you notice about the instructions John gave in order to prepare people for Jesus' arrival? How do these kinds of actions make us more able to receive Jesus?
3. What are some ways that you can prepare yourself for what God wants to do in and through your life? What does it mean to live in anticipation of God?
 - How can you better prepare yourself for worship and the word at church?
 - How can you better prepare yourself for Life Group meetings?
 - How can you better prepare yourself to experience God on non-Church days?

Prayer: Pray that God would help prepare you for what he's going to do in your life.

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