



*"Oftentimes we forget that Jesus was Jewish. He didn't come to undo all that had been done, but to fulfill what had written. Pentecost was a Jewish holiday long before it was a New Testament celebration of the birth of the Spirit-filled church. Join us as we learn about Pentecost and how the overlay of the Spirit's coming in Acts 2 interplays with a Hebraic understanding of Pentecost historically."*

## INTRODUCTION ACTIVITY:

When you think about the Holy Spirit part of the Trinity, what do you think of? What comes to mind? How do you feel talking about Him?

## MEMORY VERSE:

**Deuteronomy 16:10**

*"Then you shall keep the Feast of Weeks to the Lord your God with the tribute of a freewill offering from your hand, which you shall give as the Lord your God blesses you."*

## SCRIPTURE READING:

**Deuteronomy 16:9-10**

9 *"You shall count seven weeks. Begin to count the seven weeks from the time the sickle is first put to the standing grain. 10 Then you shall keep the Feast of Weeks to the Lord your God with the tribute of a freewill offering from your hand, which you shall give as the Lord your God blesses you."*

**Numbers 28:26**

*"26 "On the day of the firstfruits, when you offer a grain offering of new grain to the Lord at your Feast of Weeks, you shall have a holy convocation. You shall not do any ordinary work,"*

**Exodus 23:16**

*"16 You shall keep the Feast of Harvest, of the firstfruits of your labor, of what you sow in the field. You shall keep the Feast of Ingathering at the end of the year, when you gather in from the field the fruit of your labor."*

**Leviticus 23:15-22**

*"15 "You shall count seven full weeks from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering. 16 You shall count fifty days to the day after the*

*seventh Sabbath. Then you shall present a grain offering of new grain to the Lord. 17 You shall bring from your dwelling places two loaves of bread to be waved, made of two tenths of an ephah. They shall be of fine flour, and they shall be baked with leaven, as firstfruits to the Lord. 18 And you shall present with the bread seven lambs a year old without blemish, and one bull from the herd and two rams. They shall be a burnt offering to the Lord, with their grain offering and their drink offerings, a food offering with a pleasing aroma to the Lord. 19 And you shall offer one male goat for a sin offering, and two male lambs a year old as a sacrifice of peace offerings. 20 And the priest shall wave them with the bread of the firstfruits as a wave offering before the Lord, with the two lambs. They shall be holy to the Lord for the priest. 21 And you shall make a proclamation on the same day. You shall hold a holy convocation. You shall not do any ordinary work. It is a statute forever in all your dwelling places throughout your generations.*

*22 “And when you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, nor shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the Lord your God.”*

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Read the passages about observing the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost) for the Hebrew people. What was its focus? Why did the Lord desire them to observe this?
2. If the Lord needs nothing from us, why does He command sacrifices and offerings?
3. It is no accident that the Holy Spirit was given to the disciples on the Day of Pentecost. What connections/similarities/reasons do you see for the Lord to do this?
4. The Jewishness of Jesus is something that has, in scholarship, recently become an increasing interest. Why do you think it is important to understand Jesus' Hebrew culture when understanding the things Jesus did and taught?
5. Must we, as post-resurrection followers of Jesus, continue with these Hebraic practices? Why or why not? If we do choose to observe them, how do we do so in light of the Messiah?

## APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

1. At the heart of Pentecost/the Festival of Weeks seems to be generosity rooted in our experiencing the generosity of the Father. What does it mean to be generous as a follower of Jesus?
2. Tithing is often one of the only Old Testament practices we hear preached in modern Christian churches. Why is that? Is it biblical that we should tithe? If we should tithe, are there other OT practices we should practice as well?
3. How are you doing on being generous with your time, talent, and treasure?

## CLOSING PRAYER ACTIVITY:

Invite someone to close the group in prayer.