

PRAYING UP TO PENTECOST

“You are to count seven complete weeks starting from the day after the Sabbath, the day you brought the sheaf of the presentation offering. You are to count 50 days until the day after the seventh Sabbath and then present an offering of new grain to the Lord.... On that same day you are to make a proclamation and hold a sacred assembly” (Leviticus 23:15-16,21, HCSB).

“When they arrived, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying.... All these were continually united in prayer. ...

“The day of Pentecost had arrived, they were all together in one place” (Acts 1:13-14; 2:1, HCSB).

Easter Sunday DAY 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 119:1-8	DAY 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:9-16	DAY 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:17-24	DAY 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:25-32	DAY 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:33-40	DAY 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:41-48	DAY 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:49-56
DAY 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:57-64	DAY 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:65-72	DAY 10 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:73-80	DAY 11 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:81-88	DAY 12 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:89-96	DAY 13 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:97-104	DAY 14 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:105-112
DAY 15 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:113-120	DAY 16 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:121-128	DAY 17 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:129-136	DAY 17 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:137-144	DAY 19 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:145-152	DAY 20 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:153-160	DAY 21 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:161-168
DAY 22 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:169-176	DAY 23 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 1:1-6	DAY 24 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 11:1-7	DAY 25 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 15:1-5	DAY 26 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 19:7-14	DAY 27 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 25:4-10	DAY 28 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 63:1-8
DAY 29 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 67:1-7	DAY 30 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 78:1-16	DAY 31 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 78:17-31	DAY 32 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 78:32-39	DAY 33 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 78:40-55	DAY 34 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 78:56-72	DAY 35 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 93:1-5
DAY 36 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 94:12-23	DAY 37 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 95:1-7	DAY 38 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 96:1-13	DAY 39 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 98:1-9	DAY 40 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 99:1-9	DAY 41 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 103:1-22	DAY 42 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 105:1-11
DAY 43 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 106:1-5	DAY 44 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 111:1-10	DAY 45 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 112:1-10	DAY 46 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 128:1-6	DAY 47 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 130:1-8	DAY 48 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 148:1-14	DAY 49 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 138:1-8
Pentecost DAY 50 <input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 150:1-6	Memory Verse: ‘This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days’—the Lord’s declaration. ‘I will put My teaching within them and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be My people’ ” (Jeremiah 33:33, HCSB).					

PENTECOST

by Claude V. King

Background

Pentecost was the second of three annual feasts in the Hebrew calendar when all men were to come to Jerusalem for a sacred assembly. The three feasts were Passover, Shavuoth (Pentecost), and Sukkoth (Feast of Tabernacles or Booths). Titles used for this feast include: Pentecost (Greek for 50), Shavuoth (Hebrew for weeks), Feast of Weeks, Feast of the Harvest of first fruits, Day of First Fruits.

Each of these three main feasts has significance in God's plan for world redemption. Passover was fulfilled in the sacrificial death of Jesus on the cross as the Lamb of God taking away the sins of the world. Pentecost takes on special meaning as the time when God poured out His Spirit on the church in Jerusalem and 3,000 believed in Jesus Christ and became the first fruits of the church. The Feast of Tabernacles found at least partial prophetic fulfillment when God became flesh and dwelt (tabernacled) among us.

Pentecost was scheduled to occur 50 days following Passover. The wheat harvest began in the spring of the year, so this feast centered on a time of thanksgiving for the first fruits of the harvest. In Jewish history, this feast was also associated with the giving of the Law to Israel at Mt. Sinai.

Through Jeremiah, God said: “‘This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days’—the Lord’s declaration. ‘I will put My teaching within them and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be My people’” (Jeremiah 33:33, HCSB). God promised to write His law on our hearts so that we may obey it out of love for Him, Our celebration of Pentecost will demonstrate gratitude for God's Word, thanksgiving for God's provision for our needs, and prayers for a spiritual harvest as lost people come to place their trust in Jesus Christ.

Some of the Scriptures related to Pentecost and the Feast of Weeks include: Exodus 23:16, Exodus 34:22-24, Leviticus 23:9-22, Numbers 28:26-31, Deuteronomy 16:10-12, Deuteronomy 16:16-17, Acts 1:3-15, and Acts 2:1-47.

Praying Up To Pentecost

Use the attached chart to count up the 50 days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday. Gather your family, join with your spouse, or join friends to pray. Read Leviticus 23:15-16 and 21, and then read Acts 1:13-14 and 2:1. Then use the following daily activities to get your focus on God and to pray for a spiritual harvest for the cause of Christ.

1. Count the days from Passover up to Pentecost beginning with day one. Mark your chart each day as you read the Scripture and pray.
2. Read a portion of the Psalms for each day.
3. Briefly discuss what God has to say to you through the passage. Ask: How can we apply this Scripture to our lives? or What does this passage tell us about God? About ourselves?
4. Memorize Jeremiah 31:33 during the fifty days.
5. Compile a list of people in your circles of relationships who do not know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. These may be family members, relatives, friends, neighbors, co-workers, classmates at school, or other persons you know in the community. Add to your list daily others who may come to mind.
6. Close with a time of prayer. Some of the Scriptures can be a part of your prayer. Include in your prayer time some or all of the following kinds of prayer:
 - **Confession:** Agree with God about your sin and seek forgiveness. Agree with God about the truth of Who He is.
 - **Praise:** Lift up God's name and tell Him how wonderful He is.
 - **Worship:** Express your love to the Lord and express reverence for His holiness.
 - **Thanksgiving:** Thank God for His blessing—both physical and spiritual. Be specific in describing things for which you are grateful.
 - **Petition:** Ask God for things related to your own needs.
 - **Intercession:** Pray for the needs of others. Pray each day for the people on your list who need to know Christ. Ask God to draw them to Himself. Give God permission to use you in their lives in any way He chooses. Use the suggestions for praying for those yet to believe.

PRAYING FOR THOSE YET TO BELIEVE ¹

1. Bring the person to recognize and understand his emptiness and purposelessness in life. Bring him to the end of himself so that he will turn to You.
2. Cause him to hunger and thirst for more in life.
3. Bring him to understand the truth of his condition without Christ and to understand what Christ has done for his salvation.
4. Bring conviction of sin. Allow the consequences of his sin to cause him to desire a different life. Let him become fed up with his life as it is.
5. Jesus, reveal the Father to him.
6. Father, exalt Jesus in his eyes.
7. Father, draw him to Yourself and Your Son Jesus.
8. Guide and create circumstances that create a need, then show Your love through meeting needs through me or others of Your people.
9. Bring godly people into his life that will influence him for Christ.
10. Prepare circumstances in his relationships where a Christian (me if You choose) will have the opportunity to forgive him and thus reveal something of Your mercy.
11. Open his ears to hear Your call.
12. Allow him to see the unity and love of Your people in a way that he is convinced that Jesus must be sent from You. Convince him that Jesus is indeed the Savior of the world.
13. Prepare his life to receive the planting of Your Word.
14. Protect him from Satan's attempts to blind him and steal away the Word that has been sown.
15. Reduce the cares of the world around him that could choke the seed planted.
16. Raise up intercessors in behalf of this person. Guide my praying for him.
17. Reveal to me the time and the way for me to share a witness about You and to tell him about the good news of salvation.
18. Bring him under the hearing and influence of Your Word through teaching or preaching. Create in him an openness to listen.
19. Create opportunities for him to hear a witness for Christ from several different trusted sources. Use the timing and diversity of these witnesses to convince him that You are the Author behind them all.
20. Cause him to recognize his need for a Savior.
21. Lord, do whatever it takes to cause this person to seek after You. Break the hardness of his heart toward You.

1. Claude King, *Final Command Action Manual* (Murfreesboro, TN: Final Command Resources, 2001), 49-50. Used by permission. You have permission to reproduce for use in your church or small group.