

RUN THE RACE | HOPE CHAPEL | PENTECOST SUNDAY

# GO WITH POWER

Three Movements of Pentecost Power

Pastor Andrew Cole | Sunday 24 May 2026 | 9AM Gawler

**Big Idea:** *Pentecost is not a story we remember - it is a power we receive. The same Spirit who fell in Acts 2 is the same Spirit who fills every believer today. Be filled. Be bold. Go.*

## Introduction - Before and After Pentecost

Before Pentecost, the disciples were the same men who had walked with Jesus, eaten with him, and witnessed his resurrection. They had heard every parable, watched every miracle, and stood face to face with the risen Lord. Yet they were still hiding behind locked doors. Knowledge alone had not made them bold. Memory alone had not made them missionaries.

Then the wind came. The fire fell. And the same trembling group that had been hiding burst out into the streets of Jerusalem preaching Christ with such authority that 3,000 people were saved in a single day.

That is the difference Pentecost makes. Pentecost is not a story we are simply honouring. We are stepping into the same promise, the same Spirit, and the same commission.

**Acts 1:8** *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*

Notice the order: power first, then witness. Jesus did not say, go and try harder. He said wait until you are clothed with power from on high. The Christian life was never designed to be lived on our own strength. The Great Commission was never meant to be carried out in human ability. The Holy Spirit is not an optional extra for the spiritual elite - he is the engine of the Christian life and the fuel of the kingdom of God.

MOVEMENT 1

**FILLED**

*You cannot pour out what you have not received*

MOVEMENT 2

**BOLD**

*The Spirit in you is greater than the fear around you*

MOVEMENT 3

**GO**

*The kingdom advances through Spirit-filled people who simply move*

## MOVEMENT 1 | The Power to Be Filled

**Acts 2:1–4** *When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.*

Pentecost begins not with going, but with being filled. The disciples did not manufacture power. They were asked to wait, and they waited. There were 500 asked to wait - 120 stayed the course. And what Jesus promised, the Father delivered.

The wind that filled the house is the same Spirit that fills the believer. The fire that rested on each of them is the same fire that rests on us. Every believer has been given the same Holy Spirit who raised Jesus Christ from the dead.

***Are you filled - or are you simply familiar? Familiarity with the Spirit is not the same as the fullness of the Spirit.***

**Ephesians 5:18** *Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.*

The phrase 'be filled' in the original Greek is present continuous - keep on being filled. Daily. Continuously. Hungrily. You cannot pour out what you have not received. Stop trying to do God's work on yesterday's anointing.

**Luke 11:13** *How much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!*

Heaven is not stingy with the Spirit. Ask boldly, ask expectantly, ask today. Come back to the upper room. Wait. Ask. Receive.

**Reflect:** *Is it possible you have been running on yesterday's anointing? What would it look like to come back to the place of waiting on God, asking him to fill you afresh today?*

## **MOVEMENT 2 | The Power to Be Bold**

**Acts 4:31** *After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.*

When the Holy Spirit fills a believer, fear loses its grip. Peter - the same Peter who denied Jesus three times before a servant girl - stood up on the day of Pentecost and preached

Christ crucified to the very crowd that had crucified him. What changed Peter was not therapy, not time, not training. It was the Holy Spirit.

The boldness of the early church was not personality or natural confidence. It was supernatural courage poured into ordinary people. When the religious leaders saw the boldness of Peter and John, they were astonished - because they recognised them as unschooled, ordinary men.

**2 Timothy 1:7** *For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.*

The hesitation that keeps you silent at work, the embarrassment that keeps you quiet at the family table, the timidity that keeps your faith locked behind your front door - that is not from heaven. The spirit you have received is a spirit of power.

Holy Spirit boldness is not the absence of fear. It is the presence of God being greater than your fear.

Pentecost boldness is built in checkout queues, in lunchrooms, in schools, in coffee dates, in family lounge rooms. Peter got out of the boat in a storm because the Spirit gave him boldness. He is the only one who tried it.

**Reflect:** *Ask the Spirit to give you one bold step this week. One conversation you've been avoiding. One name on your heart. One invitation. One prayer offered to someone. Take the step and watch the Spirit meet you there.*

### MOVEMENT 3 | The Power to Go

**Matthew 28:18–20** *All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.*

The Holy Spirit was not given to make us comfortable. He was given to make us commissioned. Pentecost is not a destination - it is a doorway. The wind that came into the upper room blew the disciples into the streets. The fire that rested on them set their feet running.

The word 'go' in the Great Commission, in the original Greek, carries the sense of 'as you are going' - as you live your ordinary life, make disciples. The Great Commission is not reserved for missionaries flying overseas. It is for every believer, in every ordinary moment.

- Your workplace is your mission field
- Your neighbourhood and community is your Judea
- Your family is your Jerusalem
- Your social media feed is to the ends of the earth

**Romans 10:14–15** *How then can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?... How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news.*

3,000 were saved on Pentecost not because the disciples had a perfect strategy, but because they had the Holy Spirit and a willingness to open their mouths. The Holy Spirit is a missionary Spirit. If he fills you, he will send you. If he sends you, he will go with you. You are never alone on mission.

**Zechariah 4:6** *Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord Almighty.*

Heaven is not waiting for better preachers or more polished churches. Heaven is waiting for willing feet. The kingdom advances through Spirit-filled believers who simply go.

**Reflect:** *Who has God placed in your life who doesn't know Jesus yet? Write their name down. Pray for them by name. Look for one open door and walk through it - with the power of the Holy Spirit.*

## Conclusion - The Wind Is Still Blowing

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Pentecost was never meant to be a single moment in history. It was meant to be an ongoing pattern of the church. The same Spirit who fell in Acts 2 is the same Spirit who fills this room. The same fire that rested on Peter is the fire that rests on every believer who says yes to Jesus.

**Be filled - because you cannot give what you have not received.  
Be bold - because the Spirit in you is greater than the fear around you.  
Go - because the kingdom advances through people who are willing to move.**

We have been given everything we need: the indwelling Spirit, the Word of God, the name of Jesus, and a mission that cannot fail because it was authored in heaven.

## Reflection & Discussion Questions

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Use these on your own during the week, or with your LifeGroup.

**1.** Andrew said knowledge alone had not made the disciples bold, and memory alone had not made them missionaries. Is there an area of your faith where you have knowledge without power? What might it look like to ask God to fill that area afresh?

**2.** He asked: are you filled, or are you simply familiar? What is the difference in practice? How would you describe your relationship with the Holy Spirit right now?

**3.** Ephesians 5:18 uses present continuous language - keep on being filled. What does a daily, hungry pursuit of the Spirit's fullness look like for you practically?

**4.** Peter stood up and preached to the crowd that had crucified Jesus. What changed him was the Holy Spirit, not time or training. Is there a bold step of faith you have been putting off, waiting until you feel more ready or qualified?

**5.** The 'go' of the Great Commission means 'as you are going' - in the ordinary moments of everyday life. What is your mission field right now: your workplace, your neighbourhood, your family, your social media? Who specifically has God placed there?

**6.** Andrew suggested writing down the name of one person who doesn't know Jesus and praying for them by name. Will you do that this week? What is one open door you could walk through?

## Key Scriptures This Week

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- Acts 1:8 - You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you
- Acts 2:1–4 - The day of Pentecost; filled with the Holy Spirit
- Acts 4:31 - After they prayed, they spoke the word of God boldly
- Ephesians 5:18 - Be filled with the Spirit - keep on being filled
- Luke 11:13 - The Father gives the Holy Spirit to those who ask
- 2 Timothy 1:7 - Not a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind
- Matthew 28:18–20 - All authority; go and make disciples
- Romans 10:14–15 - How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news
- Zechariah 4:6 - Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit