

Discussion Guide for "Who's Thirsty?" Decoder Ring Week 8

What does it mean for us that the Holy Spirit is alive around and within us? On Pentecost, the birthday of the Church, we're exploring one of Jesus' stranger word pictures. It all has to do with an ancient festival, the Dead Sea and of course the book of Revelation. Hey... it's our birthday, so we have to party!

Passage for Sacred Reading:

Sacred Reading is a way of reading Scripture with an eye toward transformation, not just information. Get a <u>step-by-step guide here</u>. The passage for this week's sacred reading is John 7.

Questions for Discussion

- 1. When you think of a Temple what do you think of? Did JR.'s control room metaphor make sense?
- 2. Given what you know about the importance of the Temple to God's people, what are some of the implications of its destruction?
- 3. Return to Ezekiel's vision of the new Temple in chapter 47. Given the sermon this week, what stands out to you in this vision?
- 4. What is the Festival of Booths? Return to Jesus' announcement in John 7:37-39. What are the implications of what he's saying? What do you find challenging about his message? What do you find hopeful?
- 5. Return to Revelation 22. How is this a fulfillment of Ezekiel's vision and Jesus' promise? What does it mean for us today, in the week following Pentecost?
- 6. Review this series. It's been called "Decoder Ring". Do you feel like you have a better sense of how God is inviting you into God's work? What is the next right thing the Holy Spirit is inviting you to do?