VINEYARD Church of the Peninsula

Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 2021

*Blown Down, Ignited, Powered Up**

The Incarnation, Jesus becoming man, was the initial breaking in of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. Jesus' death and Resurrection completely satisfied the righteous requirements of pure and holy justice, opening the way, through the man Jesus, for us to participate in intimate and eternal fellowship with God as his beloved. Jesus' Ascension, his returning to the Father, not just as Son of God, but as Son of Man, bridged the gap between heaven and earth, furnishing full and free access to Heaven's throne room to us, His redeemed, once for all time. The sending of the Holy Spirit we celebrate today was but the first installment of the *'infinitely more than your greatest request, your most unbelievable dream and exceed your wildest imagination! He will outdo them all, for his miraculous power constantly energizes you.'* (Paul's description in his letter to the church at Ephesus, chap. 3, TPT)

Acts 2:1-13; Joel 2:28-32; Ephesians 1:1-21

1. The jolting, shot-out-of-a-cannon _____

2. The timely, old-is-new-again, _____

3. The unprecedented, 'more than you could ask or think' _____

"*You see, the church is not peripheral to the world, the world is peripheral to the church.*"
Ephesians 1:23, The MESSAGE

The Church, likened to an ocean liner, has gotten heavily barnacled, weighing her down, slowing her down. The barnacles are various adventures in missing the point, such as: differing points of doctrine, liturgical/non-liturgical, denominational/non-denominational, organ/no organ, musical instruments/no musical instruments, choirs/no choirs, traditional/contemporary, red carpet/blue carpet/no carpet, the list is numbingly, dishearteningly endless. PD

*or 'A Church is Born'