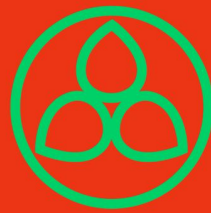




# PENTECOST RETREAT



**ARNA**  
Anglican Renewal Network Australia

## ARNA PENTECOST PODCAST 2023

### *Guidance of the Holy Spirit*

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#### **OVERVIEW | WELCOME**

This week may the Holy Spirit fall afresh on us as we look to that pivotal day in history, Pentecost, when the gift of the Holy Spirit was shared. We gather each day this week, stilling our lives for a short moment, to pay attention to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

In exploring the *Guidance of the Holy Spirit*, we will do some foundational reflection. Who is the Holy Spirit? How is Holy Spirit Given? How does Holy Spirit Guide? And Holy Spirit as witness.

#### **I focus on Centring on God's Presence**

As we seek to be guided by the Holy Spirit, we surrender the guides we commonly turn to and seek the presence of the Holy Spirit.

*And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever — the Spirit of truth. John 14.16*

#### **I pause and pray.**

Ever present Lord, if we do not know your presence, may you become known.

If we know your presence but do not trust, grant us trust.

We acknowledge we cannot fully understand, your inspiration, your guidance and your grace in our lives.

Yet, we pray, that you guard and guide our ears, our eyes, our minds and our hearts as we seek to know you and that we may be guided by you, to you.

Come, Holy Spirit, come.

### **I reflect**

Before we can reflect on the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we must know who guides the Holy Spirit. To explore this, we seek to know the full personhood of God as revealed in the Triune figure of Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

### **I challenge**

Philip Yancey's book, *Fearfully and Wonderfully*, offers reflections on the life of renowned leprosy surgeon Dr. Paul Brand. One of the illustrations Yancey presents is the story of Dr Brand's students mimicking the surgeon whom trained Dr Brand. It went something like this. Dr Brand was observing his students at work. When he noticed the students using facial expressions that reminded him of his mentor. Asking the students if they had met his mentor, the students replied, "no, Sir, these are the expressions you make".

Without ever meeting Dr Brand's mentor these students were able to carry somewhat of his story as they took on some characteristics that Dr Brand invertedly passed on.

Teachers we may never see or meet bear witness through generations because of those who carry on their testimony.

Similarly, the persons of the Trinity point us to the fullness of God. Holy Spirit pointing to Jesus, Jesus to the Father, that we may then be able to understand somewhat the fullness of God.

### **I listen**

May we reflect on the how knowledge transcends generations, giving thanks for the faithful witness God has given of himself. Asking that we may be convicted by the Word that guides our eyes to God and his revealing grace.

*As we enter into Scripture may we reflect the faces of witnesses in our life, may our eyes see afresh the persons of the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit in these verses. May we seek fresh eyes on the revelation of each person of the trinity and how they reflect and guide collectively the one will, purpose and revelation of God.*

### **John 14:16-17, 26**

*And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever — the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.*

*But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.*

### **I Pray**

Revealing God,

We see and experience the intimate unveiling of a relational God who seeks us. We lament where and when we have downplayed or overplayed your presence with us.

We rejoice that your intimate personhood has been not only revealed to us but is an invitation for us to learn from and be guided by each and everyday.

Open us this day to a renewed zeal in seeking your daily presence.

Amen.