Sermon Questions for PCC Small Groups

**Title: Pentecost Power: Passover Love**

**(Ephesians 3:14-21)**

**Series:** Celebration of Pentecost

**Date Preached:** June 4, 2017

**Questions:**

1. Discuss what you remember from the sermon about the polar differences between power “the way of the Lamb” and power “the way of the dragon”.
2. According to Ephesians 1:15-22, what role does the Holy Spirit play in our lives, and in the life of the church?
3. Read Revelation 2:1-7. How does the Jesus’ critique of the Ephesian saints play a role in how Paul prays for the Ephesians in 3:14-21?
4. What do we learn from the prayer about **the nature of God the Father and the presence and power of the Holy Spirit?**
5. What is the relationship between the Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ?
6. What is the relationship between power and love?
7. So in light of this prayer, what does the power of the Holy Spirit look like in a believer? See 4:1-3 too!
8. Discuss and add your examples to:

**Dragon Style Power:** It’s subtle.

* Being overly impressed with people of influence and wealth. Treating people of influence different than “average” people. Cowtowing? Dragon.
* Becoming enamored with political leaders who we believe will champion our conservative or liberal agenda. Believing that in order for the kingdom to advance, we must attach ourselves to a political movement. Is this not the leaven of Herod that Jesus warned up about?
* Using our God-given gifts of intellect, charm, and position to manipulate people and situations in order to get our own way, and promote our brand.
* Anything we do or say that diminishes the reputation of someone else in order to subtlety promote ourselves.
* Being driven to succeed by believing that size, speed, and cultural cache are greater values than faithfulness, perseverance and integrity. All of these examples describe power gone wrong. Power without love.
* Ecclesial elitism: arrogantly believing that our most cherished doctrinal distinctives and denominational tribe is superior to the rest, justifying unnecessary division and mistrust among fellow Christians.