## Stone Soup, or Sine Qua Non

- Stone Soup
- Sine Qua Non = "without which, not"
  - An essential condition or action
    - "Without this, you're going nowhere!"
- Examples?
  - "Chemistry" of a team or relationship
  - Drive a car: key and gas
- Which model better describes a Christian church?



### **Great Jewish Feasts**

You would travel to Jerusalem if you could

- Feast of Passover Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection

   March/April 40 days later: ascension to heaven
   "Wait until the Holy Spirit comes in power"
- Feast of Weeks, also known as Pentecost
  - 50 days after the Sabbath of Passover
- Feast of Tabernacles
  - September/October

# Promises of the Holy Spirit

#### **Old** Testament

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And <u>I will put my</u> <u>Spirit in you</u> and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

And afterward, <u>I will pour out my Spirit</u> on all people.

Joel 2:28

#### New Testament

John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. <u>He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire</u>." *Luke 3:16* 

Jesus said, "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be <u>baptized with the Holy Spirit</u>." *Acts 1:4-5* 

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At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the **washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit**, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. *Titus 3:3-7* 

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	"Repent & be baptized"→Receive forgiveness & Spirit
41-47:	People respond and the church grows in unity

### The Big Idea

God the Father **HIS PLAN AND PROMISE** God the Son **JESUS' LIFE, DEATH, AND RESURRECTION** and God the Holy Spirit **HIS EMPOWERING PRESENCE IN US** are the absolutely necessary foundation and power of the church which is filled with people who have ignored, forgotten, belittled, judged, and disobeyed Jesus Christ and are welcomed freely by His grace through faith by the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit



## Implications

Enter the church (God's family) through Jesus Christ alone

- Repent: change of mind, radical reorientation
  - From: Hope in self or in others, or no hope at all
    - To: Hope in Christ alone (for self and for the church)
- **<u>Be baptized</u>** in Jesus' name (identity, authority, promise)
  - **Internal**: The "washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit"
  - **External**: Literally covering with water as a visible and communal sign of the internal reality

### Implications

- Enter the church (God's family) through Jesus Christ alone
- Live in the power of the Spirit: individually and together
  - Hope: not in...
    - Self or someone else or a group of people
    - A vision
    - A technique or strategy or dialogue or...
  - Hope in God through...
    - Prayer
    - Obedience to God
    - Fellowship with Christ and Christ's people

## Implications

- Enter the church (God's family) through Jesus Christ alone
- Live in the power of the Spirit: individually and together
- Rejoice in and proclaim this Good News
  - "For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake." 2 Corinthians 4:5
  - We who come with unclean hands and unclean hearts are washed by God once for all (justification)
    - and through daily renewal (sanctification)
    - to be God's people together by His power for His glory

