

The main theme for this teaching series

Doing the Works of Jesus by the Power of the Spirit

John 14:12

3 types of Christians

- **Bible – some of it true some is myth**
- **Bible - true but is restricted to history**
- **Bible – true as history and as a plan for today**

If Bible not true for today – if book of acts to something we can expect for today, then God has left us without any **examples for us to follow**

Introduction:

The characteristic that makes Christian's unique from all other religions:

The presence of the Holy Spirit.

We are going to discover who He is and what he does!

The Holy Spirit was PROMISED by the Father – what God promises, HE DELIVERS!

Jesus' last command to His followers before He left the earth...

- Luke 24:49 “stay where you until you are ‘clothed’ with power”

How the church BEGAN...

- Acts chapters 1 and 2. The disciples were FILLED with the Holy Spirit
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- The Heavenly Father gives only GOOD gifts Luke 11:5-13

If we are going to develop sensitivity TO the Spirit, then we need to understand the sensitivity OF the Spirit

Topic 1

The Holy Spirit 's character and nature.

1. **The Holy Spirit is a 'person'** - not a 'force or a 'power'. This can be difficult to understand because when we think of a person, we always remember their name and their face. However we do not have a name and a face for the Spirit of God. 'Holy Spirit ' is His title but the Bible does not give us His 'name'. And, unlike Jesus, who appeared in the form of a man, we cannot see the Holy Spirit. We cannot picture his face in our mind.

Thirdly, the symbols often used for the Holy Spirit are not 'personal'
e.g. oil fire water wind

Therefore we must look at the passages that describe what the Holy Spirit DOES in order to understand who the Holy Spirit IS.

The Scriptures that show us that the Spirit is a 'person'

- i. He is referred to by Jesus as a person – John 14:17 and 16:13-15
- ii. He has a mind – Romans 8:27
- iii. He has a will - 1 Cor. 12:11
- iv. He has emotions - Ephesians 4:30
- v. He speaks
 - a. He counsels us - John 14:16
 - b. He teaches us - John 14:26
 - c. He guides us - John 16:13 Romans 8:14 leads us
 - d. He convicts us of sin – John 16:8
 - e. He helps us to pray (by interpreting our words to the Father)
- vi. He Loves - ROMANS 15:30

2. **The Holy Spirit is God** – divine attributes

- a. creative - John 3:5-6
- b. raising the dead – Romans 8:11
- c. healing the sick and casting out demons – Matthew 11:28
- d.

3. **The personality of the Holy Spirit**

- a. The H.S. is submissive - always does what the Father wishes
- b. The H.S. always agrees with God's Word – John 14:26
- c. The H.S. is persuasive
- d. The H.S. is present – He alone is God's representative

Topic 2

Being Filled with the Holy Spirit

1. Honoring the Holy Spirit ... what honor is ... proper recognition ... it is important to learn how to honor the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is God – divine attributes

- a. creative - John 3:5-6
- b. raising the dead – Romans 8:11
- c. healing the sick and casting out demons – Matthew 11:28

If we want to be filled with the Holy Spirit , what difference does it make to me that He is a person and not just a power? Acts 5 - Ananias and Sapphira - lying in His presence is a serious sin!

Jesus as Three stages of the work of the Holy Spirit

- a. The Spirit comes TO you - John chapter 4
- b. The Spirit works IN you -
- c. The Spirit works THROUGH you – John chapter 7

The meaning of the DOVE as a symbol of the Holy Spirit - John 1:31-33

- When God's Spirit rests upon us, we must be careful how we live
- When's God's Holy Spirit rests upon us, others will recognize that God is with us and they will follow our leadership.

Topic 3

Why don't these stories happen today?

Ministering in the Power of the Holy Spirit

1. The disciples were BAPTIZED in the Holy Spirit - Acts 2:4
They continued to be FILLED with the Holy Spirit (e.g. Acts 4)

Paul the Apostle commands us to '**keep on being filled**' with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:18-20)

2. Luke 4 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...' Upon Jesus and upon YOU
* a secret for this - 4:1-2

The Relationship of the Holy Spirit and people is different in
The Old Testament compared to the New Testament

In the O.T. anointing came upon special people at special times
Hebrews chapter 1 says in the old times God spoke in various ways at
various times but NOW He has spoken through Jesus -
and what did Jesus say? John 14:12

Jesus said the Holy Spirit would come to be HIS representative on earth.

3. What is the 'Anointing' of the Holy Spirit ?

Luke 10 and Matthew 10 - Jesus GIVES spiritual authority to His disciples

- a. Luke 5:17 Jesus was God but also He was a Spirit-filled man
'The power of the Lord was present to heal...'
- b. John 5:19-21 'the Son can only do what He sees the Father
doing'
- c. compare Luke 4 and John 20:21 'As the Father has sent me, I
also send you'

d. We need to know the PRINCIPLES of God's Word AND the PRESENCE of God's Spirit .

3. You can carry the anointing of the Holy Spirit with you.

What can we do when we carry the Holy Spirit's anointing?

4. The Guidance of the Holy Spirit

sometimes the Holy Spirit will lead us to do things that we would never think of ourselves e.g. Acts 10 when Peter visits Cornelius,

sometimes the Holy Spirit prevents us from doing what we planned to do e.g. Acts - when Paul goes to Europe instead of Asia because of a dream

5. RIGHT NOW...where do I need the POWERFUL presence of God?

a. in my life

b. in my family in my ministry

Topic 4

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit -

On day of Pentecost - tongues – what happened in Bangladesh

1. We must develop the FRUIT of the Spirit in order for God to trust us with the GIFTS of the Spirit .

- the FRUIT – the results, the character qualities of Jesus that grow in our lives as a result of the Spirit who lives within us Galatians 5:22-25

- a. Romans 12 – Gifts that represent your personality type – gifts that you received when you were BORN
- b. 1 Corinthians 12 - Gifts that represent God's personality – gifts you were given when you were BORN AGAIN by the Spirit (when you became a Christian)

GIFTS WE DON'T NEED

The purpose of the Spiritual Gifts:

1. to bridge the gap between our limited understanding and what God knows

→ e.g.

2. To release people from the power of the enemy in their lives

→ e.g.

The Power of YOUR words

List the gifts from 1 Corinthians 12. How many of them require you to

SPEAK?

The Gifts of prophecy, tongues, words of knowledge, words of wisdom, and discerning of spirits all exist for the purpose of bringing God's thoughts to us about our situation.

Once we know what God knows and see what God sees, then we can have faith to do what God wants to do! God's Power is released when YOU speak in faith!

Definition of the Gift of Tongues: 'The mind of the Holy Spirit using your tongue to speak God's thoughts, God's will and God's desire in a language you have not learned'

SEEK THE GIVER NOT THE GIFT

How do you feel when someone just wants you for what you give them?