

OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

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SERMON TITLE The People of the Holy Spirit

SERIES We Need the Holy Spirit

DATE 4/10/2022

KEY SCRIPTURE Luke 4:18-19; Isaiah 11:1-3

SYNOPSIS We are called to be people of the Spirit, who are baptized in, filled with, anointed by and walking in the Spirit.

HIGHLIGHTS Video near the end
Closing song: Rest On Us



We Need the Holy Spirit

Review: The Prompting of the Spirit... He stirs, shifts, and steers us. He supports us, speaks to us, and speaks through us. Let's be people of the Spirit.

☞ The People of the Holy Spirit

Luke 4:18-19 (Cf. Isaiah 61:1-3)

18 "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Jesus was anointed by the Holy Spirit and went around doing good and healing people. We are to become more and more Christlike, so we also should be anointed for ministry.

Jesus said, **"the Spirit of the Lord is on me."** That same phrase is found in Isaiah 11.

☞ **Isaiah 11:1-3**

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. 2 The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him — the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord — 3 and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.

If we are to be more and more Christlike, then we also want the Spirit to rest on us.

☞ **The Spirit of wisdom** = discerning; making right choices. We need wisdom and discernment!

In Ephesians 1:17 Paul said it was his continual prayer for us to have the Spirit of wisdom so that we may know God better. This facet of the Spirit helps us to understand the times and to make good choices. We need it.

--Bill Gothard... *Wisdom is seeing life from God's perspective.*

Words of wisdom:

- *It's better to sleep on what you plan to do than to be kept awake by what you've done.*
- *If it ain't broke, don't fix it.*
- *Genius has limits; stupidity does not.*
- *A stiff neck usually supports an empty head.*
- *Learn from the nail--its head keeps it from going too far.*
- *If fifty million people say a foolish thing, it is still a foolish thing.*

☞ **The Spirit of understanding** = insight; distinguishing between good and evil. This is a much-needed quality in today's world. We can be like the men of Issachar, who understood the times and knew what to do. With God's Spirit resting on us, this can describe us as well.



☞ **The Spirit of counsel** = making good decisions; giving good advice. This one is literally one of the names of the Holy Spirit. (John 14:16) Since we are filled with the Holy Spirit, we can offer good advice to our friends. Have you noticed that people seek you out for advice? *Even before I was any kind of leader, and even as a teenager, others would ask for my advice. It wasn't because I was so smart; it was the Spirit of God working in me.* The Holy Spirit is the Counselor.

☞ **The Spirit of power** = valor; victory. When I think of the Holy Spirit, this is what primarily comes to mind. He is powerful. Because he resides within believers, we also can display power, valor, and victory.

The original disciples spoke boldly for God when they were filled with the Spirit. And, in spite of their difficulties, they were victorious in Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:57

But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

God wants you to be a victor--not a victim. *I have a good friend whose childhood was very rough, but he is clear on the fact that he is not a victim; he's a survivor, a victor.* The more the Spirit of God rests on us, the more power and victory we can see. He's the Spirit of power.

Table talk: In what ways have you experienced the power or victory of God in your life?

☞ **Start timer**

☞ **The Spirit of knowledge** = perception; skill. With the Spirit of God working in us, we can be excellent in all we do. We can be more perceptive to what others need in any given situation. We can be skillful in our occupation.

This Spirit of knowledge goes beyond just skill, though. The Holy Spirit can give us knowledge on things that are otherwise unknowable. Some of you have experienced this. It's often called a word of knowledge, a gift of the Spirit, which is available to all believers.

☞ **The Spirit of the fear of the Lord** = reverence; awe. With a high respect for God, we are positioned to receive all his goodness and support. When we have this fear of the Lord we don't need to fear anything else.

As a believer you have the Spirit who gives wisdom, understanding, counsel, power, along with knowledge and the fear of the Lord. The Spirit of God in us enables us to follow the example of Christ...

☞ **Preach Good News** = preach & teach with authority about salvation and the Kingdom of God. This calling is not just for pastors and evangelists; it's for all believers. With the Spirit of God, you are equipped to tell the Good News.



☞ **Bind up the brokenhearted.** Because the Spirit is on us, we offer hope and encouragement to hurting people.

Psalms 34:18

the Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

*I'm trading my sorrow; I'm trading my shame; I'm laying it down for the joy of the Lord
I'm trading my sickness; I'm trading my pain; I'm laying it down for the joy of the Lord*

There are many problems out there, but Jesus is the answer. He can do more in a moment than doctors and therapists can do in years. And, he can work through you to do this kind of healing, because you have the Spirit of God.

☞ **Freedom for captives.** People don't have to live a miserable life of sin and be destined for hell. They can be set free. We can show them the way. Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is freedom. This world has been dominated by the enemy for too long. By the Spirit of God, we can help liberate people from sin's bondage.

☞ **Sight to the blind/ release from darkness.** With the power of the Spirit, people can literally be healed of blindness. But there's also a spiritual blindness that plagues this world. It's the enemy who keeps people in the dark. (2 Corinthians 4:4). But now we are part of Jesus' mission to rescue people from the dominion of darkness. And here's the part the enemy really doesn't want people to understand... Not only is eternal life available, but believers will actually inherit the kingdom of God. (Daniel 7:27). The enemy wants people to believe that this world is all there is, but there is so much more. The Spirit of God living in us gives this kind of spiritual sight.

☞ **Release the oppressed.** This includes not only the freedom of the gospel which we preach, but deliverance from physical ailments. We should expect to see real healings when we minister and pray with people. This is part of the ministry and calling of all believers.

Jesus was anointed to preach *and* to heal. Paul said that he came not only with words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power. Because the Spirit of God is in you, you can pray for the sick to be healed as well.

☞ **Proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.** People are drowning in a world of sin, but we can be part of the rescue plan. The Spirit of the Lord in us enables us to share salvation with others.

The greatest story ever told is that God became a man in order to rescue all people from the consequences of sin. Next week, we will talk especially about Jesus death and resurrection and what that means for all people. The truth is, people don't have to go to hell and suffer eternally. That's great news. And now, by the Spirit of God, we are part of that story, telling others about God's grace and mercy.



Let's be people of the Spirit with wisdom and understanding, walking in the power of God. Let's be people whom God uses to tell the Good News; people who offer healing, freedom and truth; people who demonstrate the power of God in their lives. This is our heritage. We can be people of the Spirit.

📺 **Video: Pete Greig**

This is you!

We need the Holy Spirit!
Let's be people of the Spirit!

Song: Rest On Us