



Life in the Spirit

1. The Holy Spirit is a good gift from God

2. The Holy Spirit is a fire in our heart for all

More Series Life in the Spirit

Read

John 3:1-15, Acts 2, Joel 2, Ezekiel 36 /37. Luke 11.10

Intro

We are going on an adventure with the Holy Spirit. But what kind of adventurous people are we? We are a reasonably adventurous bunch. Over next five weeks we as a people are going to go on an adventure. The adventure we are going to go on is to know more of the power and the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life.

How does that make you feel? Some may say Yes! I am up for that but others, through past experiences, might feel a bit nervous about this. Some of us hate camping for instance and want to avoid it – and when we speak about going on an adventure with the Holy Spirit our reactions can be a bit like that – you know I want to stay in my comfortable surroundings and be in control.

I just want to reassure you that it is safe to go on an adventure with the Holy Spirit. Going on this adventure of deepening our relationship with the Holy spirit is not something to be afraid of. There may some hurdles and some obstacles that we may need to overcome. There might be some things that re need to reorder in our minds and our thinking and our lives on this adventure but you are safe.

I am convinced that we need to go on this adventure is that we need more of God. We need more of the Holy Spirit in our personal lives and a church. Do you recognise

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Evidence you need more

- If you question whether God loves you
- If you get overcome by fear, anxiety or worry
- If you ever feel half-hearted in your affections or devotions towards Jesus
- If you ever feel hesitant or lack boldness in your witness
- If you ever struggle with your thought life or have nagging thoughts that say you are worthless and you don't mean anything
- If you ever feel captive to sin or persistent error
- If you ever have a low expectation of encountering God or being used by Him
- And there are so many more reasons that we all need more of the Holy Spirit



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The Father gives the Holy Spirit as a gift

- Luke 11.10 we can see that if we ask of the Father, He will give you the best gift from Him is the Holy Spirit.
- How often do we ask for this?

Benefits of the Holy Spirit

- Quenches our thirst – continually drinking and being filled with His presence
- Gifts- he gives us good gifts and gifts that we shouldn't be afraid of. Gifts that we shouldn't leave in the corner and neglect. Seek them and use them regularly for the benefit of the church.
- Bear fruit – fruits in our lives of this communion with the Holy Spirit as we grow in Christ like-ness.
- Guarantees our inheritance – He is the guarantor of all we have been promised in the word.

2. The Holy Spirit is a fire in the heart of every Christian

The Holy Spirit is the promise of the Father to all who repent and believe.

- What is it about the account of Pentecost that strikes you? The fire, the proclamation of the gospel? What really grabs me is a small word that crops up a number of times – the word All. The Holy Spirit fell on all of them – they were all filled. The Holy Spirit is the promise of the Father to all who repent and believe.
- Peter said repent and be baptized and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit for the promise is for you, your children and for all who are called.
- Its for all – it's not restricted to a few super few. The whole bible is about God wanting to dwell with His people. For now this is as good as it gets – as the Holy Spirit comes and wants to dwell in us.
- Our salvation is not the end of the story – we are saved so that God can give you the Holy Spirit and come and dwell in you.
- This indwelling and being filled with the Holy Spirit is emphasized at Pentecost when Peter refers to Joel (Acts 2.17) – I will pour out my Spirit on All – young, old, women, men, slaves and servants, masters. The Holy Spirit does not discriminate on race, or age, gender, position or power.
- See this in Ezekiel 36 – 37 – I will give you a new heart and a new spirit I will put within you. I will put my Spirit within you.



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- God gives Ezekiel a vision of bones – and God says can these come alive. God breathes His spirit on the dry bones and they become an army.
- Picture of each of us – giving our dead bones to come to life.
- This is what Jesus is speaking of when in John 3 that we need to be born again.
- See this in Genesis the Holy Spirit was breathing life into dust.

Holy Spirit lives in you

- Do you believe this? If you don't know Christ then see what a great transformation takes place when you give your life to Christ and are born again.
- We need to understand how much we have from God in this gift of the Holy Spirit. You may ask but what do we have?
- Turn to Ephesians 1 – these are some of the things that Paul says we have received in Christ:
 - We have received every spiritual blessing
 - We have been chosen before the foundation of the earth
 - We have been adopted into God's family
 - We have rest in the beloved
 - We have been lavished with His grace
 - We have received an inheritance
 - All of this has been sealed with the Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit wants to bring you into a full experience of all that you have in Jesus

- We have all of this in Christ – then Paul goes on to pray this -Eph1.17 that the Father of Glory may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation
- Why? That you may know what the hope is that you have been called – the point is Paul says we have all these things BUT you must have the eyes of your heart and wisdom to see what you truly have – that this is truly yours.
- That you may know what you have fully through Christ.

Holy Spirit is like a pilot light in a boiler

- Is He warming or filling every part of your life? the pilot light is always there but you have to turn on the heating to get it to really warm the house.



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Holy Spirit is like two people living in a house

- Imagine two people living in the same house – they are always present but never really engage in friendship by spending quality time together.
- There is no companionship, no intimacy, no relationship in there.
- I once lived with a lodger, a nice guy, but I never got to know him, I never spent any quality time with him – we can be like this with the Holy Spirit.
- Are we longing for more time to spend with Him as you would long to spend time with your closest friend or partner?

Questions

Which picture is closest to your experience of the Holy Spirit?

Are you looking forward to being with Him on a daily basis, of encountering more of Him?

Do you want to walk in His power and presence in your lives or has he become a neglected lodger in your heart?

Reflection

- Invitation if you do not know Jesus then invite Him into your heart today?
- Do you need to repent of neglecting the Holy Spirit -like a lodger we ignore or a gift we need in the corner?
- Ask the Father to enable you to pray I need more ?
- Ask the Holy Spirit to come and fill us afresh.