

'And then the Spirit Came'

From the series:: Acts... 30 Years that Changed the World – 2/24/13

BIG IDEA

If you are a follower of Jesus – a Christian, then you have the Holy Spirit living within you. The Holy Spirit enables ALL Christians to live God-ward lives and empowers us to accomplish the mission that Jesus entrusted to us. We will never be able to exhaust the resources of the Holy Spirit, but far too many times, Christians live life depending on their own strength rather than living in the power the Spirit provides us. If we'd live Spirit filled lives, then we must seek to apply the following truths to how we live:

1. Jesus is worthy of ALL of your trust ALL of the time!
 2. Learn to embrace a lifestyle of 'suddenly.'
 3. Fix your eyes on the Spirit of God not the manifestations of the Spirit of God!
 4. The Holy Spirit FILLS ALL followers of Jesus!
 5. The Holy Spirit will enable you to love the 'doubters, skeptics, & haters!
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TESTIFY

Take a few minutes at the beginning of your Community Group to answer the following questions – *'How much of your life is done by you? In other words, how much of what you do (marriage, parenting, dating, friendship, work, studies, ministry, etc.) is accomplished in your own strength? And how much of what you do is done through the power of the Holy Spirit at work in you and through you?'*

If we'd see the Holy Spirit increase in our lives, specifically, begin to live empowered lives, then we need to identify where we're currently looking in order to accomplish all that we do in life. Not only share where you are, but where you'd like to see yourself go and/or grow in the coming days.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Jesus is worthy of all of our trust all of the time. Despite the complications and challenges of life, what are some ways in which you see yourself trusting Jesus right now? Are there things that hold you back from trusting Jesus fully with all of you all of the time?
2. Are you ok with '[suddenly](#)'? Meaning, do you desire to see the Holy Spirit come 'suddenly' in your life? What would be some of your concerns, fears, hesitations in wanting to see the Holy Spirit 'suddenly' come regardless of where you are, who you are with or what you are doing? Share some examples of when you experienced the Holy Spirit coming 'suddenly' and what happened as a result?
3. The disciples were enabled and empowered by the Holy Spirit to communicate the great things God had done in languages not their own at Pentecost – read [Acts 2:1-13](#). For many, its easier to focus on the gifts of the Holy Spirit rather than on the Holy Spirit Himself. What might it look like to remain focused on the Holy Spirit? What are some examples from your life where the Holy Spirit empowered you to accomplish something that you normally would not have been able to accomplish on your own? If we lack examples of the Holy Spirit empowering us, take some time to share some thoughts on why that might be.
4. If you are a follower of Jesus – a Christian, then you are FILLED with the Holy Spirit. Meaning, the Holy Spirit is in you, not just around you – **Acts 2:4** – **"And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit."** One reason many followers of Jesus do not experience the fullness of the Holy Spirit on a day to day basis is because we also fill ourselves with other things, thus crowding out the Holy Spirit. What currently fills you? Anger, worry, anxiety, fear, lust? Take time to share with your Community Group that which is currently filling you, and then spend time praying for one another that we'd each be filled not with the things of this world, but the Holy Spirit alone.

"Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works." Hebrews 10:24

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **This Sunday** – Join us this Sunday, March 3rd as we continue our series in Acts. Next up: Cut to the heart... This will also be James Parks first Sunday serving as the NEW GENESIS Worship Pastor.
- **Beginnings Brunch** – this Sunday, March 3rd at 10:30AM, the GENESIS Connections Team will be hosting a brunch for all the new (or newer) people to GENESIS over the past month. If you've brought a friend to GENESIS recently, please invite them to join you this coming Sunday for the beginnings brunch so they can learn more about GENESIS and how to connect within the community.
- **Alanna DeMella Fundraising Gala** – Saturday, March 23rd. Learn more about how you can support the Alanna & Joshua Foundation via the GENESIS Website:
<http://www.genesisthejourney.com/events/event/309>
- **Student Ministries** – Help spread the word about Student Ministries at GENESIS. High School Students will gather on the 1st and 3rd Monday and Middle School Students will gather on the 2nd and 4th Monday's. If you'd like to get involved with Student Ministries, visit the GENESIS website to learn how... www.genesisthejourney.com/serve/students