



LIFE GROUP NOTES
For week commencing: 02/06/2024

Holy Spirit

Be Filled with the Holy Spirit

Life Group Activities

Use the Three Thirds structure for your gathering together.

Looking Back

- Mutual Care – How are you doing?

- Worship & Prayer
 - Worship
 - Pray
 - Communion

- Loving Accountability
 - How did you follow?
 - How did you fish? (Ask how many gospel shares in the last week)

- Vision Cast – Why are we meeting like this?
 - Talk about your vision for social events / outreach and how you will care and encourage one another.

Looking up

Discovery Bible Study Be Filled with the Holy Spirit

Discovery Bible Study Notes can be found below for reference.

- Read Ephesians 5:15-20
- Follow the DBS notes below:
 - Can you summarise the teaching from this week?
 - Do you think that you can teach this to those you are discipling?
- How are you going to apply this teaching to your life?

Looking Forward

- Practice – Practice the Three Circles or your People Map
- Set Goals:
 - Use C.O.S.T.
 - Connect – How am I going to connect with God this week?
 - Obey – How am I going to be obedient this week?
 - Share – Who am I going to share the gospel with or pray with this week?
 - Teach – Who can I encourage with this message this week?
- Pray together for the filling of the Holy Spirit

Discovery Bible Study Notes for Reference

- Review the teaching so far
 - The coming of the Holy Spirit
 - The Person of the Holy Spirit

Be Filled with the Holy Spirit

- This is one of our values as Relational Mission
 - Spirit Led Church - We believe that all the gifts in Scripture are available and desirable today for building the local church and extending the Kingdom of God. We believe every believer should be filled with the Spirit as part of God's desire to empower us for Christian life and witness.
- Every Christian has received the Holy Spirit
 - The Holy Spirit brings new life
 - We are born again spiritually through the Holy Spirit - John 3:3-8
 - Every Christian has the Holy Spirit living in them. - Romans 8:9
 - He is the seal on our life - Ephesians 1:13
- We must be filled with the Holy Spirit (Eph 5:18)
 - As believers, being filled with the Holy Spirit is not a suggestion. Ephesians 5:18 is clear: "Do not be drunk with wine, but be filled with the Spirit." This is not a mere suggestion; it's a divine command. There's no room for negotiation. As believers, we must be filled with the Spirit.
- It can be a second experience
 - Jesus' disciples were born again long before the day of Pentecost. In John 20:22 after His resurrection, Jesus breathed on them and said "Receive the Holy Spirit".
 - But then in Acts 1 Jesus commands His disciples not to depart from Jerusalem but to wait for the promise of the Father (Acts 1:4) telling them that they would be baptised with the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:5). He told them that they would receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon them (Acts 1:8).
 - After 10 days when the day of Pentecost came, tongues of fire rested above their heads, "and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance" (Acts 2:4). This clearly shows that they received a baptism in (or with) the Holy Spirit. Although the disciples were born again long before Pentecost, at Pentecost they received a "baptism with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 1:5 and 11:16 refer to it this way) that was after conversion and resulted in great empowerment for ministry.
 - Acts 8:14-17 - baptised believers had not received the HS
 - Acts 9:17 - Paul saved on Damascus Road three days earlier then filled with the HS
 - Acts 19:1-7 - Disciples - Did you receive the HS when you believed?
- What is the difference between someone who's a Christian and a Christian who is full of the Holy Spirit?
- This verse (Ephesian 5:18) was written to the church and not to an individual

- It's important to recognize that this command isn't issued to individuals in isolation. The apostle Paul wrote this letter to the church in Ephesus, a collective body of believers. The form of the verb he uses, "be filled", is plural. It's a corporate command, intended for the entire church that he was writing to. This corporate emphasis must not be overlooked.
- In the Book of Acts, we find that the early church exemplified this corporate aspect of being filled with the Holy Spirit.
- On the Day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended upon the believers. In Acts 2:1 we read, "When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance." They were together in one accord, and the Holy Spirit filled the entire house where they gathered. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit – no exclusions. The result was an outpouring of the Spirit, marked by miraculous signs, speaking in tongues, and the beginning of a powerful movement.
- This is not an isolated incident. In Acts 4:31, we read, "And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness." Once again, the corporate gathering of believers is evident. Their collective prayer resulted in the place being shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit – no exclusions. This filling empowered them to proclaim God's Word boldly.
- I want to challenge us to desire this corporate dimension of being filled with the Holy Spirit within our church. Our gatherings should not merely be moments where a few of us experience this filling while the rest watch. They should be occasions where the entire body experiences being filled with the Holy Spirit. This is what we see in the church in Acts, and it should be our expectation.
- The Filling of the Holy Spirit is an ongoing, continuous experience
 - Note that the verb "be filled" is in the present tense. This implies that it's not a one-time event but an ongoing, continuous experience. We are called to be continually filled with the Holy Spirit, refreshed and renewed as a community.
- This is for everyone
 - 5 categories of people who were filled with the Spirit in Acts:
 - Those who are longing to be filled – Acts 2- they had been praying
 - Those who were receptive – Acts 8:14-17 - Samaria
 - Those who were hostile – Acts 8:1, 9:1-2 - Saul
 - Those who were uninformed - Acts 19:1-9
 - The unlikely - Acts 10:44-47
- What should we expect
 - Acts 2:4
 - Acts 2:38-47
 - Acts 4:31

- Acts 6:2-3
- Acts 8:17-18
- Acts 10:44-47
- Acts 19:6
- Speaking in tongues
- Prophecy
- Praise
- Witnessing
- Fruit of repentance
- How do can I be filled with the Holy Spirit?
 - Luke 11:9-13
 - Ask
 - Father gives good gifts to His children and will pour out His Holy Spirit upon you.
 - Laying on of Hands

The 3Thirds Discipleship Model		
Look back	Look up	Look forward
<p>1. Mutual care: How are you doing?</p> <p>2. Worship: Praising God in a simple, relevant way.</p> <p>3. Accountability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ <i>Follow:</i> How did you obey the lesson from last time? ◦ <i>Fish:</i> Did you pray with anyone who was in need? ◦ Did you share your story and/or Jesus' story? ◦ Did you find a person of peace? <p>4. Casting vision for reaching lost people and making disciples.</p>	<p>5. New lesson: Enough Biblical content to obey and pass it on.</p> <p>Use the Discovery Bible Study Method:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Read the Bible Story b. Ask them to re-tell the story in their own words c. Ask four questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. What does this story tell us about God? ii. What does this story tell us about people? iii. Is there a command to obey or an example to follow or a promise to live by? iv. How does this apply to my life? 	<p>6. Practice the lesson until everyone is confident and competent to apply the learning. e.g. Retell your story, Jesus' story, or this week's story.</p> <p>7. Set goals</p> <p>Goals for personal growth, sharing the gospel, and training others.</p> <p>C.O.S.T. Connect Obey Share Teach</p> <p>8. Pray and Share Communion</p>
<p>1/3 of your time (e.g. 30 mins)</p>	<p>1/3 of your time (e.g. 30 mins)</p>	<p>1/3 of your time (e.g. 30 mins)</p>