



Sermon Discussion Guide for Cumberland Fellowship Church Sermon Series: Biblical Pattern (Week 6) – March 12, 2023

This guide is a supplement to the weekly sermon. We encourage families and groups to use it. When we hear God's Word, we need to do more than listen. The bible says, "Be doers of the word, not hearers only." (James 1:22)
Step 1: GATHER with your family or group. **Step 2: REVIEW** and **DISCUSS** the key points and scriptures from the sermon. **Step 3: PRAY** for the prayer requests shared by your family or group.

DISCUSSION STARTER

Pastor Sam said that salvation is not our destination, but salvation is God's pathway to conquer sin. Why is this so important? Where does God dwell now? How does God accomplish his purpose through us? The Presence God = The Power of God = Leads to Accomplishing Purpose.

DIGGING DEEPER 1

Read Acts 1:4-5, 8. Study the word "baptized" with the Holy Spirit (vs. 5). What does it mean? You receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you at salvation. Power to do what? How do we reflect God? What's the character of God? Jesus loves humanity so much that He wants everyone to have a relationship with him (John 3:16; 2 Peter 3:9). If you want to reflect the true character of God, then you will desire to lead people into a relationship with God. Ask, "how are you doing being his witnesses?"

DIGGING DEEPER 2

Read Acts 2:1-8. What did Pentecost celebrate? Why was this only a one-day celebration? Read John 4:35. Pentecost was one of the 3 major celebrations of the Jewish faith. It happened 7 weeks or 50 days after Passover. Pentecost celebrated the First Fruits of Barley harvest; they would bring the first of what their barley produced. It wasn't a week-long celebration because they needed to be in the field because the harvest was ripe at this time. What did the disciples do after they received the Holy Spirit? How should this motivate us today? Pastor Sam has been given a vision for CF to not just do ministry, but to lead a movement. How does this passage substantiate this?

DIGGING DEEPER 3

Read Acts 2:38-39, 41-47. We see the first movement of the church in verse 41. What caused this fruitful day? What does it mean to be an image bearer of God? How can you multiply the image of God? What happened after the 3,000 was added to their number (Acts 2:42-47)? What is the Biblical pattern seen here: sin covered = being made holy = God dwelling = God power = God purpose = God's image bearers. What was the pattern of the early church (see vs. 42-47). How do we attract unbelievers and those with questions today? The church that Jesus established as seen in Acts had no denominations or factions meeting independently. Why do we have so many denominations and factions today?

DOING THE WORD

Discuss ways we can demonstrate we know Christ to the world around us. How can you replicate the actions of Christ utilizing your knowledge of Christ? Close by asking God to unify his church throughout the world and to use you to be his peacemakers (Matthew 5:9). May you reflect God by sharing your testimony and leading people to a relationship with God through the life of Christ this week.