HOLY SPIRIT

CREW LEADER GUIDE

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HOLY SPIRIT

THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS TOPIC

The Bible talks often about a way that we as followers of Christ can live empowered lives. This happens through being filled with the Holy Spirit and living out a spirit filled and spirit led life. This video series will be available for Crews and each episode will focus on a particular aspect of the Holy Spirit. There will be explanations of common misconceptions, as well as application & next steps that you can take in this area.

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

ACTS 1:8

START HERE

SET THE TONE WITH PRAYER

Begin your time together with prayer. Invite the Holy Spirit to come and speak to each person.

Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.

EPHESIANS 1:17

PREPARATION

The purpose of this guide is to equip and prepare you as the Crew Leader to lead your crew in discussion about the Holy Spirit. Review the video and guide prior to your crew so that you can be prepared to answer questions and lead the discussion.

CONSIDER YOUR CREW

How does someone who is a new christian think about the Holy Spirit? What preconceived ideas about the Holy Spirit exist? What are challenges you have experienced when you learn about the Holy Spirit? Who in your crew can support you in the discussion?

RESOURCES

The God I Never Knew: Robert Morris

Overdrive : Steve Kelly Jesus The King : Tim Keller

True North College: PT 241 Knowing God

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

INTRO

Today we are starting this series on the Holy Spirit. What role has the Holy Spirit played in your walk with Christ? Good, bad or ugly it is important to be honest and address those preconceived notions so that you can start at a place of humility as we study what the Bible says about this topic.

WATCH

LESSON ONE WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT

CREW DISCUSSION

What are the preconceived notions you have or have had about the topic of the Holy Spirit?

THE ENEMY'S PLAN TO STEAL

Satan's plan is to use our pre-conceived notions, abuses and confusion about the Holy Spirit to rob Christians of the desire to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Satan knows without the Holy Spirit we aren't filled and empowered to live a spirit led live.

Paul urges the Church to not be ignorant and uninformed of what Christ has given us in the Holy Spirit.

Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:1

SUPER NATURAL

It's important to recognize that when we discuss the Holy Spirit, we are discussing the supernatural. That word is actually two parts:

Super: above, over and beyond

Natural: not made or caused by humankind

In other words, the super natural is simply a discussion about that which is above, or beyond our human capacity. This takes away some of the weird misconceptions.

THIRD PERSON OF THE TRINITY

The Holy Spirit is just as much an equal part of the Trinity as the God the Father and Jesus Christ the Son.*

*RESOURCE ABOUT THE TRINITY, JESUS THE KING BY TIM KELLER

ETERNAL

The Holy Spirit, like God the Father and Jesus, have always been. The Holy Spirit can be seen throughout the Bible, Old and New Testament.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the **Spirit of God** was hovering over the waters.

GENESIS 1:1-2

RUAKH - SPIRIT OF GOD

The word used here in Genesis 1 is literally translated as "The Spirit of God" or "The Breath of God" or "The Breath of Life". We see this word again in Genesis 2:7 when God breathed His Ruakh into man. When man sinned it separated us from His Spirit because God can not be united with sin & unholiness.

OLD TESTAMENT

INDIVIDUAL FILLING & EMPOWERMENT

We see God's Spirit would descend on a person: king, prophet, judge for a specific purpose and time period. Joseph with interpreting dreams, Samson's strength, Elijah called down fire...Moses performed miracles. But God desired a more permit way to dwell within His creation just like in the Genesis 2, and throughout the scripture we can see His reconnection plan at work. The Tabernacle was His next step.

LESSON ONE WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT

THE TABERNACLE

And God gave specific instructions to Moses for building it:

"Then have them make a sanctuary for me, and I will dwell among them. 9 Make this tabernacle and all its furnishings exactly like the pattern I will show you. (Verse 22) There, above the cover between the two cherubim that are over the ark of the covenant law, I will meet with you and give you all my commands for the Israelites."

EXODUS 25:8-9 & 22

Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. 35 Moses could not enter the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.

EXODUS 40:34-35

THE TEMPLE

Just as God gave Moses instructions to build the Tabernacle He gave Solomon instructions to build a Temple. And just like the Tabernacle God's Spirit came and dwelled in the Temple.

When the priests withdrew from the Holy Place, the <u>cloud filled</u> the temple of the Lord.

1 KINGS 8:10

NEW TESTAMENT

When Jesus died on the cross and the Temple curtain tore we became the new dwelling place for the Lord. We see that on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2.

They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. 4 <u>All of them were filled</u> with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues[a] as the Spirit enabled them.

ACTS 2:2-3

THE CHRISTIAN

God wants to fill us with His spirit and empower us to do the supernatural. Through salvation we are made clean and through the process of sanctification we remain a holy place for the Holy Spirit to dwell.

Do you really have a desire to be filled with the Spirit of God and live a Spirit empowered life?

Is your motivation for wanting to be Spirit filled for your own power & glory or only to glorify God?

Which are you more concerned with: God showing up... or preparing the place for him to show up to?

LESSON TWO

BEING FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT?

INTRO

In the first lesson learned that we are now the "temple" God's holy dwelling place when we find salvation in Jesus Christ. Just like the tabernacle and the temple we were made to be filled with God's Spirit.

WATCH

LESSON TWO BEING FILLED

CREW DISCUSSION

In order to accomplish all that God has called us to do for His Kingdom we must be filled and empowered by the Holy Spirit. Jesus said:

On one occasion, while he (Jesus) was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit...But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

ACTS 1:4-5

Jesus also told his disciple to wait and not to leave Jerusalem until they recieved the Holy Spirit. His direction indicates the importance of being filled by the Spirit. When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and <u>filled the whole</u> house where they were sitting. 3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. 4 All of them were <u>filled</u> with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

ACTS 2:1-4

FIVE POINTS FROM ACTS 2 PASSAGE

1. The Rushing Wind

The sound of the blowing wind represents the Ruakh or breath of God returning. Just as God created and filled Adam with His Spirit, He now filled His disciples.

2. Everyone Present had Believed

All present in the upper room were believers, Christians who have accepted Christ, repented and their temples (hearts) were prepared.

3. God's Spirit, Not Your Spirit

It is important to understand that your spirit isn't being filled but it is God's Spirit filling you.

4. From Filled to Overflowing

When you accept Christ, Jesus enters you Holy of Holies (heart & soul) but is confined. You are not yet Spirit filled. When Jesus died on the cross and the curtain tore in the Temple unleashing God's presences from the Holy of Holies. Being filled means Jesus in your heart will now flow outward into speech, thoughts and actions.

5. Show Us How to be Filled

Just like accepting Jesus Christ we can pray to be filled with the Holy Spirit. The salvation prayer invites Jesus into your heart and the prayer to be filled with the Spirit invites the Spirit to fill your whole body and led you in every aspect of your life.

LESSON TWO BEING FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Why do you think Jesus instructed the Disciples to wait and not to do anything until the Spirit came?

Would you say that your temple is pure and prepared for God to fill you with His Holy Spirit?

Are you ready to pray to be filled with the Holy Spirit? Why or why not?

LESSON THREE

THE NINE SPIRITUAL GIFTS

INTRO

Today we are going to focus on an aspect of the Holy Spirit that is often misunderstood, the nine gifts of the Spirit laid out in 1 Corninthians 12. It is vitual that we know the nine gifts, how they function...and also what they are not.

WATCH

LESSON THREE NINE SPIRITUAL GIFTS

CREW DISCUSSION

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-7

Spiritual Gifts are not ours, they don't belong to us. The gifts are the Lord's, He distributes the gifts to demonstrate His power in us and to expand the Kingdom of God. We don't choose the gift, the gift is not the tool, we are the tool who is willingly being used by God to accomplish His will.

To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, 10 to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues.11 All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:8-11

NINE SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1. Word of Wisdom

These are supernaturally inspired words of wisdom (Saying the right thing at the right time). Luke 12:12 "...for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what to say."

2. Word of Knowledge

Knowing & saying something true (past, present, future) you didn't know in the natural.

3. Gift of Faith

An impartation of faith or trust (especially in crisis) not natural or normal for your situation.

4. Gift of Healing

His is the supernatural healing of the mind (bitterness, addiction) body (disease,) and soul (shame). Every Christian should believe & function as if you have faith that the Holy Spirit will flow through you in healing.

5. Working of Miracles

The key to this type of gifting is the plural "s". It refers to working multiple types of gifts. This is the ability to work miracles (a variety & combination of gifts through the Holy Spirit power).

6. Prophecy

The gift of prophecy can before to Both Foretelling & Forthtelling Foretelling is knowing by the spirit about the future and allowing the H.S. to speak that prophetically through you. Forthtelling is boldly speaking hidden truth about the past or present and bringing what was hidden into the light.

7. Discerning of Spirits

Holy Spirit enabling you to sense internal motivations of a persons innermost being.

8. Diverse Tongues

This is also known as speaking in tongues...the word tongues in scripture means "Languages". This is the Holy Spirit speaking through you in an angelic language or another earthly language you don't naturally know.

9. Interpretation of Tongues

This is the H.S. enabling you to interpret tongues or interpreting a prophetic word. Whenever there is speaking on tongues meant for instruction (not prayer)...there needs to be an interpreter.

3 RULES FUNCTIONING IN THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS

- 1. The Bible always talks about an order and structure in association with functioning in Spiritual Gifts. 1 Corinthians 14:33 "...for God is not a God os disorder but of peace."
- 2. We do not lose control when Spirit filled, it is a free-will exchange cooperation between man and spirit. 1 Corinthians 14:40 "...everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way."
- 3. The use of the gifts should always move people toward God. The gifts of the spirit, along with our testimony are our most powerful and effective tools of evangelism.

HOW DO I FUNCTION IN THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS?

Remember the gifts are not ours but rather we are a willing conduit for God to work through. Before functioning in the gifts we must first be prepared to be used by God at any moment.

PREPARING TO BE USED

- 1. Get the basic Christian Disciplines going: Pray, Read your Bible, Serve, Give, be connected in church.
- 2.Clear the temple & prepare the presence: Evaluate your life & respond to areas of conviction in your life and repent.
- 3. Then Pray to be filled with the Holy Spirit: Then believe in faith that God has heard your prayers.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Have you prayed to be filled with the Holy Spirit and if so have you had an experience of any of the spiritual gifts?
- 2. If you are still hesitant to pray to be filled....what is holding you back?
- 3. How can implementing order & structure into spiritual gifts have prevented negative effects from the abuse of the Gifts?

KEYS TO A SPIRIT LED LIFE

INTRO

Today we are going to focus on some keys to live a Spirit led & Spirit empowered life. As Christians, is it important to remember that our ministry contunies far beyond Church on a Sunday. We should always be ready and willing to be used by the Holy Spirit to lead people to Jesus.

► WATCH

LESSON FOUR SPIRIT LED LIFE

CREW DISCUSSION

Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

GALATIANS 5:25

In order to keep in step with the Spirit we must be moving, we must step out in faith and align ourselves with the Spirit. We cannot walk in the Spirit and also walk in the flesh.

So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.

GALATIANS 5:16-17

KEY ONE: Show up where God can use you.

DON'T MISS THE OPPURTUNITY

This is the moment when we step out in faith; to pray with someone, encourage someone, correct someone, to share the gospel etc.

BE QUICK TO RESPOND

Don't overthink what you will say or how you will sound, God will give you the right words to say.

GOD WILL HONOR YOUR OBEDIENCE

God is faithful, He will show up when we step out in faith.

KEY TWO: We all have been annointed by the Holy Spirit.

You have what it takes, listen to the Holy Spirit he will guide you.

But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

JOHN 14:26

KEY THREE: Acknowledge God in everything.

God wants to be involved in every aspect of our lives, not just the areas of lack or need. Consult the Holy Spirit in all circumstances and situations so that we can be sensitive to his direction.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in **all your ways** submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

PROVERBS 3:5-6

KEY FOUR: Clear the Temple.

As Christians we must acknowledge our sins and repent, for we can not walk in both the Spirit and the Flesh. Galations 5:16-17. Repentance is the choice to pursue the Spirit and turn from our sinful desires.

CLOSING THOUGHTS

But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

JOHN 14:26

The Holy Spirit is a reminder to us... He brings the words of Jesus back into our mind. Remind yourself that:

- 1. I'm reminded that without the Spirit of God, I am unqualified, but with the Spirit, we are all qualified to do his work.
- 2. I'm reminded over and over that God is for us and that He has a plan and purpose for our lives.
- 3. I am regularly reminded of 2 Cor 3:17 "...Where the spirit of the lord is, there is freedom"
- "...keep being filled with the Spirit."

EPHESIANS 5:18

Don't allow this pursuit of a Spirit filled and empowered life to simply be a season....make it a lifestyle.