



ENGAGE ONE ANOTHER:

What's the strangest or craziest Christmas gift you've ever received?

1. In your own words, explain what it means to be baptized into the body of Christ. Share your story of how you got baptized into the body. Read 1 Corinthians 12:13 and Galatians 3:26-27 as a reference.
2. In your own words, explain what it means to be baptized in water. Share your story on your baptism. Read Acts 2:41 and Matthew 10:33 as a reference.
3. Have you been afraid of the Holy Spirit through the years? If so, why - bad teaching, personal fears, what you saw personally growing up in church, ignorance of who He is, etc...? What is preventing you from getting to know Him now?

PAUSE & REFLECT:

In the Psalms, it's called a "Selah". A moment to catch your breath, rest, and praise. It's an intentional break to reflect and fully experience the moment before moving on. How did God challenge, encourage, correct, etc... as your group engaged one another in this conversation?

ENGAGE GOD:

Read Acts 8:14-17 in silence and meditate on this Scripture.

Discuss as a group the four steps Pastor Paul referenced to be filled by the Holy Spirit:

1. **Remove all barriers** – Take the time to be honest with yourself and God about things that might be in the way of your relationship with the Holy Spirit - unconfessed sin, not believing, etc...
2. **Request the gift of the Holy Spirit** – Each person asks God for more of the Holy Spirit. Sample popcorn prayer: "Father, fill me with your Holy Spirit. I'm desiring more of you! Immerse me and fill me with your Presence. Fill me with your power to live in the extraordinary you have called me to live. In Jesus' name. Amen. Side note: Hold your hands out in the position of receiving.
3. **Receive Him by faith** – Believe with confidence that God and impart the Holy Spirit within you. Something tangible may or may not happen. You may feel His presence come upon you. You may get this feeling of being filled up. Don't fear it or fight it. Surrender to Him and receive Him by faith.
4. **Relate to Him daily** – Begin to seek the Holy Spirit and listen to Him daily. Pray to Him and allow Him to speak to you. You may get increased prompting or even feel your spiritual gifts activated and empowered. Spend time with Him daily and get to know Him.

GROUP PRAYER:

Prayer: Read John 15:5 together, then take turns praying something like this - "God, let me abide in you. You're my power source. Help me bear spiritual fruit in my life as I stay connected to you." Once you've prayed this, open up general prayers and address additional prayer requests and concerns as needed.

ENGAGE ONE ANOTHER + ENGAGE GOD = *Extraordinary Together*