

The Holy Spirit Doesn't Always Make Sense

Opening Prayer & Icebreaker (10 minutes)

Icebreaker Question: Share about a time when God led you to do something that didn't make logical sense, but you obeyed anyway. What was the outcome?

Sermon Summary

This message explored how the Holy Spirit operates in ways that often defy human logic and understanding. Through three main metaphors—water, wind, and new wine—we learned that the Spirit moves with direction, power, and influence that transforms us from the inside out.

Key Takeaways

1. The Holy Spirit moves like water - He has a current that provides direction and brings life
 2. The Holy Spirit moves like the wind - He blows where He wills and doesn't always make sense to the natural mind
 3. The Holy Spirit is new wine - He creates a new influence in our lives that others may not understand
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Discussion Questions

Section 1: The Holy Spirit Moves Like Water (20 minutes)

Read John 7:38-39

1. The pastor mentioned that "living water" flows in and out. How would you evaluate your spiritual life right now—are you receiving and giving, or just receiving? What needs to change?
2. What does it mean practically to "go with the flow" of the Spirit rather than fighting against the current? Share an example from your life.
3. The message emphasized that when we can't solve something, we need to "breathe" and rest in God. What situation in your life right now requires you to stop trying to control it and simply trust God?

4. How does the Holy Spirit "refresh" you when you're weary? What spiritual disciplines help you drink from that living water?

Section 2: The Holy Spirit Moves Like the Wind (20 minutes)

Read John 3:8

5. Jesus said the wind "blows where it wishes" and we can't tell where it comes from or where it's going. How does this description challenge our need for control and predictability?
6. The pastor mentioned that storms sometimes remove unstable things from our lives. Can you identify a "storm" that ultimately brought blessing or necessary change to your life?
7. Discuss the difference between a "massive disruption" from the Holy Spirit versus a "gentle breeze." How can we become more sensitive to those gentle promptings?
8. The message stated, "The things of the spirit are foolish to the natural mind." How have you experienced this in your walk with God? How do you respond when others don't understand your spiritual decisions?

Section 3: The Holy Spirit is New Wine (20 minutes)

Read Acts 2:13-18

9. The early believers were mocked and accused of being drunk. What are some ways modern believers might be misunderstood or mocked for following the Holy Spirit?
10. The pastor said, "Don't let anybody make you feel bad about living righteously." Have you experienced pressure from others because of your commitment to Christ? How did you handle it?
11. Peter responded to mockery by preaching the Word, and 3,000 people were saved. What does this teach us about responding to criticism with boldness rather than shame?
12. The message emphasized that God will "put you on stage as a mess first" before the transformation is complete. How does this encourage you if you feel like your testimony isn't "polished" yet?

Practical Applications

This Week's Challenge (Choose 1-2)

Option 1: Practice Yielding Identify one area where you've been fighting against God's direction. This week, consciously practice "breathing" and surrendering control. Journal about what happens when you stop striving.

Option 2: Respond to a Prompting Pay attention to the "gentle breeze" of the Holy Spirit this week. When you sense a prompting to call someone, pray for someone, or take a specific action, obey immediately without overthinking it.

Option 3: Stand Boldly If you've been hiding your faith or feeling ashamed about following God, take one bold step this week to be public about your relationship with Christ. This could be through social media, a conversation, or simply not hiding your Bible or prayer time.

Option 4: Attend All-Night Prayer If possible, commit to attending at least part of the all-night prayer service mentioned in the sermon. Experience what it means to press into God's presence beyond your normal routine.

Personal Reflection Questions

Take 5-10 minutes of quiet time for individual reflection:

1. In what area of my life am I most resistant to the Holy Spirit's leading?
2. Am I more like "living water" (flowing in and out) or the "Dead Sea" (only receiving)?
3. What "natural minded" thinking do I need to release so I can move more freely in the Spirit?
4. Who in my life needs to see the transformation God is working in me, even if it's not complete yet?

Closing Prayer Focus

Group Prayer Time:

- Pray for sensitivity to the Holy Spirit's promptings this week
- Pray for courage to obey even when it doesn't make sense
- Pray for anyone in the group facing a "storm" right now
- Pray for boldness to stand firm when others mock or misunderstand your faith
- Pray specifically for the all-night prayer service

Memory Verse for the Week: *"He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water."* - John 7:38

5-Day Devotional: Moving With The Spirit

Day 1: Flowing With The Current

Reading: John 7:37-39; Proverbs 3:5-6

Devotional: The Holy Spirit moves like living water, flowing with divine direction and purpose. When we resist His current, life becomes exhausting and overwhelming. God doesn't need our direction or suggestions—He needs our surrender. Like learning to float in water, we must relax into His presence and trust His guidance. Are you fighting against God's direction in your life, or are you flowing with Him? Today, stop trying to control every outcome. Breathe. Release your grip on situations you cannot fix. The Holy Spirit knows exactly where to take you. Your job isn't to figure everything out; it's simply to yield and trust that God has already prepared the next step for your breakthrough.

Day 2: Blown By Divine Wind

Reading: John 3:8; Acts 2:1-4

Devotional: The wind blows where it wishes, and so does everyone born of the Spirit. The Holy Spirit's movements don't always make logical sense, but they always have divine purpose. Like the jet stream governing weather patterns, God has an overarching plan directing the storms and breezes in your life. Some storms come to remove unstable things; some gentle winds come to guide you with a whisper. Not every disruption is from the enemy—sometimes God uses uncomfortable seasons to position you for blessing. Stop being offended by the process. The very storm that seems devastating may be clearing the way for the breakthrough you've been praying for. Listen for His gentle breeze today, and follow where He leads.

Day 3: Filled With New Wine

Reading: Acts 2:13-21; 1 Corinthians 2:14

Devotional: When the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit, people mocked them, saying they were drunk. The things of the Spirit will never make sense to the natural mind. Living righteously, forgiving freely, and pursuing God passionately will confuse those who don't know Him. Don't let anyone make you feel ashamed for wanting to pray, worship, or live differently. Your transformation isn't for their approval—it's for God's glory. While critics mock from the sidelines, someone in that very crowd desperately wants what you have but lacks the courage to pursue it. Stand boldly. Your willingness to be different, to be "drunk" on the Holy Spirit, might be exactly what someone needs to see before they surrender their own life to Jesus.

Day 4: Receiving and Giving Life

Reading: Luke 6:38; 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

Devotional: Living water flows in and flows out. The Dead Sea receives but never gives, resulting in spiritual death. God designed you to be a giver and receiver, not just one or the other. When you only receive—always wanting, never helping—you become spiritually stagnant. When you only give without receiving, you become depleted. Healthy spiritual life requires both. Freely you have received; freely give. Are you hoarding God's blessings, keeping everything for yourself? Or are you pouring out without allowing others to minister to you? Balance is essential. Today, examine your spiritual flow. If things only come in without going out, you're not living—you're dying. Let the Holy Spirit refresh you, then become a source of refreshment for someone else.

Day 5: Yielding to the Process

Reading: Romans 8:28; James 1:2-4

Devotional: The Holy Spirit puts you on center stage while you're still a mess. Your testimony is loading right now, even when you don't feel ready. God doesn't wait until you're perfect to use you—He transforms you publicly. While you're standing there, seemingly incomplete, His glory begins to overshadow every broken thing you've been. This is uncomfortable, but necessary. Stop beating yourself up over past mistakes. That's the devil's job, not yours. Your job is to pick yourself up, jump back into the water of the Spirit, and let God redeem your time. He specializes in

restoration. What looks like chaos is actually divine order. Today, cooperate with the Holy Spirit's work in your life. Trust that even when it doesn't make sense, He's making you whole.

Prayer Focus: Each day, spend time asking the Holy Spirit to help you surrender more fully to His direction, trusting that His ways are higher than yours.