

AUGUST 2: HANDOUT God Has A Plan and Purpose for LifePoint Bible Church

To Accomplish God's Plan...We Can Not Do It In Our Strength...Desire Alone Will Not Be Enough...
God's Spirit Must Fill Us and Lead LifePoint Church.

KEY #1: *A Spirit-filled Church does Not just Organize and Process Members—It is Empowered By the Holy Spirit to Equip Believers to Be Transformed by Scripture So they Focus on the Mission to Make Disciples.*

- **Bringing a soul to Jesus Christ is greater than raising a man from the dead. There is No Greater Mission...A Spirit-filled Church Will Have Fruitful Evangelism.**

POINT: *Jesus gave us the Holy Spirit so that we can Pray in the right way, Move in the right direction, and Operate with the Spirit's Exceeding Power.*

- **"The Holy Spirit is Christ in the Christian." It Is the Holy Spirit's Filling, Which Empowers and Strengthens Us to Fulfill Christ's Mission for the Church.**

KEY #2 **As We Obey God's Word, With A Passion for Making Disciples...The Holy Spirit Will Fill Our Lives...And That Will Overflow to Those Around Us and Draw People to Christ!**

A Spirit-filled Church Allows the Holy Spirit to Transform Us through 4 Key Practices:

Devotion to Truth: A Spirit Filled Church Centers it's Teachings on the Authority of Scripture...Rather than Human Opinion. **We Must Stand On God's Word as the Undeniable...ABSOLUTE TRUTH!**

- The Bible Serves as a "Spiritual Anchor", Equipping Believers to Navigate Life's Challenges, Discern Right from Wrong, and Stand Firm Against Spiritual Opposition.
- God's Word Provides Spiritual Nourishment and Strength: It Realigns Our Thoughts With God's Will.
- **It Equips Us to Navigate Daily Struggles...Providing Peace instead of Anxiety.**
- God's Word Offers Divine Guidance: *Ps 119 God's Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*
- In the Broader Context Psalm 119 The "Light" Represents God's Moral Wisdom. So We will Make Honorable Choices and Avoid the "Pitfalls" of Sin and Confusion in a Dark or Complicated World.
- **Gods Word is Our Offensive Weapon Against Satan and Temptation: Ephesians 6:17**

2-God's Word Gives Us Gods Heart to Love People & Desire Fellowship:

3-When We are In Gods Word His Holy Spirit Causes Us to Demonstrate the Fruit of the Spirit: As Others See these Manifestations of the Fruit of the Holy Spirit they will be drawn the Christ.

4- Being in God's Word Transforms Our Prayer Life by Aligning Our Desires with His Devine Will, Which Gives Us Confidence To Stand On His Promises.

- If Satan Cannot Keep God from Answering Our Prayers he tries to Keep Us from Asking.

KEY #3: **Prayer is the Heartbeat of a Spirit-filled Church. It Moves a Congregation from Human-led Programs to Supernatural, God-Empowered, Ministry.** As the Church Seeks God, It Aligns with the Holy Spirit's Will...Unlocks Boldness for Evangelism...and Fosters Deep, Unifying Fellowship.

- **Yielding to the Holy Spirit Through Prayer** moves a church from Relying on human intellect, resources, and agendas to Depending Entirely on the Holy Spirit.
- **Praying together Creates Unity, Harmony and a Divine Singular Focus** in Congregations. This harmony serves as a powerful witness to the surrounding community.
- **A Praying Church Receives Boldness and Courage** to Proclaim the Gospel, Minister Effectively, and Reach those Outside the Faith.
- **Consistent Prayer Deepens Intimacy with God** and Allows the Congregation to Personally Experience God's Presence and Direction.

The Outcome of A Spirit Led and Spirit Filled Church Will Be Our True Worship! John 4:23-24
Jesus told Us What True Worship is: *“But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. **God is Spirit, and those who Worship Him Must Worship in Spirit and Truth**”.*

True Worship is Knowing God, Enjoying God, and Praising Him for Who He is...And In the Process, We Are Transformed.

This is Why it's Important to KNOW Exactly Who We Are Worshipping. *The Depth, Authenticity, Focus of Your Praise are Limited by Your Actual Understanding of God's Character, Attributes and Promises!*

- **POINT: “Your Worship Will Never Rise Higher than Your Knowledge of God.”**

A Spirit Filled Person or Church That Seeks To Please God Will Exercise Kingdom Authority...And Fulfill the Purpose for which God Created Them.

In Genesis 1 God gave dominion on Earth to Adam. But Satan, who lost the battle for Supremacy in Heaven, Sought to Win the Battle on Earth. In the Garden of Eden he tempted Adam and Eve to Sin...When they Did Sin, they Turned Earth's Dominion over to Satan and became his slaves.

- But the Dominion legally Lost by Adam was Righteously Regained by Jesus Christ! 1 Cor 15:21-22
- **Jesus Gave that Dominion to His Church. That is the Purpose of the Church.**

When God Raised Jesus Christ from the Dead, He Raised Us Up as Well to Live in the Power of the Spirit and Change Our World with the Gospel!

- TODAY...The devil wants to Keep Our Eyes on All the Distractions in the World So that we Do Not Follow Gods Purpose for the Church or for Our Lives!
- **Jesus said in Acts 1:8** *“But You Will Receive Power When the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses...to the ends of the Earth.*
- **The Holy Spirit Equips His Church with Supernatural Boldness, Spiritual Gifts & Daily Power to Live Righteously and Fulfill the Great Commission.**

However, Christians To Often Struggle to Boldly Share Their Faith! Fear of Rejection...OR...The Intimidation of Not having All the Answers.

- **As Well as Avoiding Conflict in A Diversified and Post Truth Culture...Causes Many to Fear Being Labeled Intolerant or Judgmental.**

KEY #4 In 1 Cor 15:58 Paul Exhorts Us saying, "Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, **Stand Firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."**

The Term, Lifestyle Evangelism, All Too Often can Be Misunderstood to Mean Others Watch how We Live Without Us Actively Sharing Gods Word. However, Lifestyle Evangelism Requires that We Show Our Faith by living a Consistent, Christ-like life among Unbelievers.

- **As We Display God's Love and Care...We Earn the Right to be Heard as We Share What Christ has Done for Us and for Them.**

KEY #5 There is NO Gospel Apart from Sharing God's Word...Nobody can be Saved by Watching Deeds.

LIFE” POINT: “Every Saved Person this Side of Heaven Owes the Gospel to Every Lost Person this Side of Hell.” -David Platt