

Sermon Guide

Pentecost: Living By The Spirit

In the weeks leading up to Pentecost we will be in a series on the Holy Spirit. The aim of this series is that we would increase in our need of, desire for, and dependence on the Spirit of Jesus.

On Sunday Alex taught us through Galatians 5v13-25 and dismantled the lie that you were called to be something you cannot become.

Jesus went to the cross to take away our sins and He gave us His Spirit so that we could actually then become one with God.

Our oneness with God by the Holy Spirit is what causes us to bear the fruit of the kingdom. We have a responsibility to daily position ourselves so that the Holy Spirit can minister God's love to us. This is how we are transformed into the people God designed us to be.

Go Deeper.

Our desire is that every person would be empowered to have a deep and intimate relationship with God. We want people to not just hear a word on a Sunday, but get activated in whatever the Holy Spirit is doing throughout the week. The guide is a tool for you to dive deeper into what God is doing in you and through you as an ambassador of the Kingdom.

You can work through these activations and questions on your own or in a group setting. If you are doing them in a group, take turns leading. After each activation, take time to pray into whatever the Holy Spirit is speaking. It is also encouraged to have a journal and Bible with you.

For each activation focus will be key. We become like what we give our attention to, and one of the best ways to worship is to focus. Often we will ask that you close your eyes, if this helps you focus, then great, if it's something else that helps you focus, then do that.

Before each activation, take a moment to be still before the Lord. These are not exercises to rush through or items on a to-do list to check off. They are invitations to commune with God and to go deeper. Turn your attention toward Him and invite Him into this time.

Discussion

- Re-read Galatians 5:13-25
- Do you believe you really can be free?
- As Christians, we often believe the lie that we have been called to become something we cannot become. Do you resonate with this? What has caused you to believe this?
- What does it look like for you to position yourself to receive love in this season of life?

Activation #1

We stay in step with the Spirit by giving everything over to Him. In prayer, place your life before God.

Ask Him, “Holy Spirit, where in my life am I holding back from you?”

Write down what He tells you.

Lay that thing, person, situation before God. Pray, “God I give this area of my life to you. I trust that you love me and that you know what is best. I want my life to be shaped by what you want, not what I want. I know that if I keep this thing from you, that it will cause death in my life. So, Holy Spirit, would you speak into this area, would you show me what will lead me to abundant life.”

To end, leave space for the Holy Spirit to come speak to you about this area in your life. He rewards our obedience and desire to stay in step with Him. Position yourself in a space to let God love and satisfy you in that area.

Activation #2

We stay in step with the Spirit by coming into agreement with the Truth and receiving God's love. This week, invite the Spirit to speak truth into your life. Our desire is to be hungry for the word of God, and so we encourage you to ask for the Spirit's input often.

When you ask God His thoughts about a situation in your life, do so with a desire to actually shape your decisions around what He says. Agree and believe that God's truth will always lead you to abundant life.

We also encourage you to position yourself to constantly be receiving the love of God. Ask Holy Spirit, "How can I better position myself to receive all of the abundant love that you have for me?"

Ways to Pray

- That we would see people in our town come to know Jesus!
- That our people would be hungry for fresh outpourings of His Presence and for the fruits of the Spirit.
- That we would agree with what God says about us and therefore walk in authority and power.
- That there would be an increase in bridal love for Jesus that leads to unprecedented consecration and holiness in the Church.