

# The Spirit is Power

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## REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week, how did it go?

- I will do my own personal study to learn about the resurrection of Jesus.
- I will plug into the resurrection power of Jesus in my life and circumstances.
- I will be a conduit of God's resurrection power to people who desperately need it.
- I will live with the perspective that anything is possible because of the resurrection power of Jesus.

## THIS WEEK'S SERMON RECAP

Many people have a clear picture of who God the Father is. They're not confused about the person of Jesus, either. But who is the Holy Spirit? What does He do? And how do we experience His presence? In this teaching series, The God I Never Knew, we remove some of the mystery surrounding the Trinity's third person. We're meant to know God the Holy Spirit as fully as we know God the Father and God the Son. This week we are exploring the power of the Spirit, and how it transformed the lives of the disciples, and how it transforms us.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How would you describe the purpose and the role of the Holy Spirit? Why is the Holy Spirit important in your day to day faith life?

2. Matt noted that, "A lot of people, including people who have been Christians for a long time, have a quite clear picture of God the Father. His power and his grace are quite clear to them. And they have high clarity on God the Son. They have a well-developed picture of Jesus. But the Holy Spirit remains vague and fuzzy." Why do you think the Spirit is hard to understand?
3. Read together Acts 1: 4-5. What do you think it means to be baptized by the Spirit?
4. Read together Acts 1:7-8 and then Acts 2:2-4. Why do you think the word 'power' is linked with the Holy Spirit? When have you experienced or witnessed the power of the Holy Spirit?

5. The Holy Spirit gave the early church the power to change lives. They went from 120 people to 3,000 people in one day. Miracles happened, people were healed, and the evil spirits were driven out. While we may not have witnessed something on this scale, when have you experienced or witnessed the power of the Holy Spirit?
  
6. Matt talks about three goals for us to commit to as we devote ourselves to understanding the Spirit the next few weeks. Goal one is to **respect the mystery of the Holy Spirit**. What does this mean to you?
  
7. How does leaning into the mystery of the Holy Spirit challenge you? How does leaning into the mystery of the Spirit help you grow?

8. The second goal is to **align ourselves with the Holy Spirit's work in your life.** Where do you see the Spirit moving and working in your life? What does it look like to align yourself with the Spirit this week?

9. The final goal is to **earnestly pray for the Holy Spirit to manifest its power in our lives and in the life of our church.** How can you as a group hold each other accountable as you pray for the Spirit's work this week?

## **NEXT STEPS FOR THIS WEEK (COMMIT TO GROW)**

- I will respect the Holy Spirit's mystery.
- I will be open to the Spirit moving in my life however he wishes.
- I will not treat the Holy Spirit like a genie in a bottle.
- I will align myself with the Holy Spirit's work in my life.
- I will not grieve or quench the Spirit.

- I will engage in activities that keep me connected to the Holy Spirit.
- I will ask the Holy Spirit to manifest his power in my life and in the life of our church.

## **SCRIPTURE REFERENCES**

- John 16:6-7
- Acts 1:4-8
- Acts 2:2-4
- Acts 2:37
- Acts 4:34
- Acts 19:11-12
- John 3:8
- Ephesians 3:16

## **Prayer Request(s)**

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