Tough Questions about the Spirit

Matt VanCleave May 14, 2023

REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

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

I will	make	every	effort	to o	grow	in	humilit	٧.

- ☐ I will make every effort to grow in graciousness.
- ☐ I will make every effort to grow in patience.
- ☐ I will make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit at Blue Oaks.

THIS WEEK'S SERMON RECAP

We know that the Holy Spirit is an integral part of the Trinity. And we know that the Holy Spirit is an integral part of our faith journey. Yet, at times, the mystery of the Holy Spirit can stir up more questions than answers.

Questions like, what is the baptism of the Holy Spirit? How do you know if you've experienced it? Does the Spirit still work like in Acts? What does it mean to live into the Spirit in our daily lives?

This week, we will be joining together to ask some big questions. In the questions and answers we will begin to uncover truths that will shape who we are and how we engage in our faith.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why do you think so many of us have such a hard time understanding the Holy Spirit?

2.	What does the mystery of the Spirit tell you about God?
3.	This week, we are diving into a few questions about the Holy Spirit. Matt walks through a few major questions, the first being has the time of extraordinary manifestations of the Spirit passed away? Read together Acts 2:1-13. What stands out to you in these verses?
4.	Do you think acts and manifestations like this, acts of the Spirit, are still present in our day? Have you ever experienced the Spirit like in Acts?
5.	Maybe you haven't experienced anything like Acts, but you have certainly experienced the Spirit in some way! Read together Luke 4:17-18, how does the Spirit move in these verses? What does this teach you about the movement of the Spirit?

6.	Matt's next question is, what is the hantism of the Holy Spirit? How would you
0.	Matt's next question is, what is the baptism of the Holy Spirit? How would you define or how do you articulate what it means to be baptized in the Spirit?
7.	Matt explains baptism in the Spirit like this, "Sometimes in Scripture, being filled with the Spirit refers to this once and permanent indwelling of the Spirit that took place on Pentecost and that you and I enter into when we become followers of Jesus. But in addition to this, every moment is an opportunity to be fully yielded to and guided by the Holy Spirit. Every moment is an opportunity. This moment right now is an opportunity to be fully yielded to and guided by the Holy Spirit. Part of what this means is every moment it is also possible to say no to the ministry of the Holy Spirit." How does this explanation help you understand your faith?
8.	What does it mean to be 'prompted' by the Spirit? How does leaning into those prompts help you in your daily faith?

9.	What makes surr	endering or submi	tting to the Spiri	t difficult?	
10.1	How does your ur	nderstanding of the	e Spirit from thes	se questions help	your faith
Ç	grow? How can yo	ou implement thes	e new discoveri	es into your faith	this week?

NEXT STEPS FOR THIS WEEK (COMMIT TO GROW)

I will expect the Spirit to manifest Himself in remarkable ways.
I will pay attention to the Spirit who is with me all the time.
I will not quench the Spirit's promptings in my life.
I will listen for the Spirit's promptings, and I will say yes to every one of them.
I will ask for prayer for healing, believing we serve a healing God.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- Acts 2:1-13
- 1 Corinthians 12:7-11
- Luke 4:17-18
- Mark 1:8
- Acts 1:5
- Acts 2:4
- Romans 8:9
- Acts 4:31
- Ephesians 5:18

Prayer	Request(S)		