

Apply The Word

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Message Info

Title:

Explore Pt. 7 -
Understanding the Holy Spirit

Speaker:

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Date:

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Scriptures:

John 3; 14; 16;
1 Corinthians 12-14



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Kid's Corner

1. Who is the Holy Spirit?
2. What does he do?
3. How does he help us to know and love Jesus?

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Explore Part 7: Understanding the Holy Spirit

Proposition: We need to work to understand that the Holy Spirit is always present and working.

Notes: The Holy Spirit is always working broadly in God's people. When Jesus was preparing to ascend to heaven, he promised his disciples that he would send the Helper, and that it would be better for them. There are two important truths to remember about the Holy Spirit: i) he is God; and ii) he never sleeps, so he is always working. We see the Spirit's work in 3 ways:

1. In Salvation
 - a. The greatest miracle of God occur in our salvation, in our regeneration and faith.
 - b. He gives us new life, at the Father's initiative. He convicts us of sin and assures us of salvation.
 - c. Baptism in/of the Spirit is the Scriptural phrase used to refer to this initial work of the Spirit. Every Christian has been baptized in the Spirit—there are no un-Spiritual Christians.
2. In Sanctification
 - a. (skipped for time)
3. In Empowerment
 - a. The Spirit has always worked among God's people for empowerment. In the Old Testament his work was seen most often in special offices: prophets, priests and kings.
 - b. In the New Testament all of God's people experience the Spirit's empowering work (cf. Matthew 11:11 where the least of Christians is greater than John the Baptist because of our experience of the Holy Spirit's work.
 - c. We must pursue the Spirit with faith because he is always at work. Tongues and prophecy are two of these works, but they are not the greatest.
 - d. The work of the Holy Spirit is always to edify us, building up God's people in faith and love.

Questions:

1. Do you see salvation as God's greatest miracle? How did that miracle come to pass in your life?
2. What is your current evaluation of the role of the Holy Spirit in your life? Do you feel that he is present, or absent? Do you see how he is working broadly in your life?