

# WITNESS

## The Spirit Difference - Part One

Week of June 25, 2017

These Digging Deeper questions can be used the week following the Sunday message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your family or Connect Group discussions.

#### Message Recap: Read I Corinthians 2:12-3:3; John 16:7; John 3:5-8

While Jesus rejoices that the Holy Spirit has come, we often grieve that Jesus is gone. The Holy Spirit is given to us freely. But we choose - either we are filled or we or not. There is not an in-between. Being filled with the Holy Spirit simply means to be filled with Jesus!

The Bible lays out for us three options for how we can live our life. We can choose to live the "natural" life. This is a lost person, without Jesus. We can be a "carnal" believer, one that believes in Jesus, yet lives by their own thinking and feeling. This believer rejects Jesus' spirit and his leadership. Finally we can choose to live as a "spiritual" person. This person yields their pride to Jesus' humility, their feeling to divine revelation, and their thinking to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

We are called to live in the Spirit. To do so we must confess our brokenness, yield to and invite in the Holy Spirit, and finally believe with courage and faith.

## Pray

Jesus, today I ask you reveal all my broken areas. I ask that you come into the cracks of my life and fill me with your Spirit. I pray for a new beginning and a new life knowing you are unstoppable and all things are possible through you. I ask for courage and faith as I commit to living a spiritual life.

## **Getting Started**

- Looking at the world around you, other than Jesus, who or what can you put your confidence in?
- If you could choose either to live and walk with Jesus like the 12 disciples did or have the Holy Spirit live in you, which would you choose and why?

## **Digging Deeper**

- 1. In seeking truth, what "truths" would the world have us to believe? What are the truths we find through the Holy Spirt?
- 2. Read John 3:1-12 about a conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus. Nicodemus was a well educated religious leader. Why did Nicodemus have such a difficult time understanding the concept of being "born again"?
- 3. If we have the Holy Spirit in us, we then have the mind of Christ. What is the "mind of Christ?" What does this mean for our individualism?
- 4. To allow the Holy Spirit to fill us is a giving away of our lives to Jesus. What positive changes will this bring? What could the losses be that come along with these changes?
- 5. Explain what it means to change from the inside out. What changes have you experienced in this way?
- 6. We are all fighting a spiritual war with sin. What are some steps we can take to ensure we will win this war?
- 7. We are all broken. We all need to relinquish our brokenness. What areas of your life do you need to lay down today?

## **Living Jesus**

While Jesus lived here on earth, he imagined something greater for us. He was exited to give us the Holy Spirit. His life inspired us to see what our life can be through him when we choose to follow him. Are you serious about how you live your life now and for an eternity? You have to take action! Admit your brokenness, confess your sins, yield to him and invite the Holy Spirit into your life. Allowing Jesus to seep into the cracks of your brokenness will make you new and change everything!