

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....” John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a



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Be A World Changer
GROWTH GUIDE

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Witnessing With Power

What does the Holy Spirit do in our lives? First of all, I want you to see the Holy Spirit fills us with power. From the very beginning of Acts, we see Jesus speaking to His disciples and He says, “The Holy Spirit is going to come on you and you are going to be witnesses.”

Now, it is important for us to understand the context here. Luke wrote both the book of Luke and Acts. In the book of Luke, we see the life of Jesus and throughout Jesus’ life we see the Holy Spirit was on Him, leading Him and guiding Him. In the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit would come and go on people’s lives. When we get to Luke, we see chapter 4:1, and verse 14 in the very beginning of Jesus’ ministry the Holy Spirit was on Jesus and leading Jesus. Everything He did was lead by the Holy Spirit.

So, we get to Acts 1, Jesus is about to go off the scene and ascend into heaven and He says, “Now the Holy Spirit is going to come upon you. And you are going to have His power, and He’s going to lead your life.” Almost like a relay race, passing of the baton, and Jesus is passing the baton to His disciples. The Holy Spirit that has been on me is going to be on you and you are going to need Him.

Read Luke 25:45-49. It’s as if Jesus is saying, “All right guys here is the message: Christ suffered, died and rose on the third day. There is the message you just got and here is what you are going to do with it. You are going to go out and preach it in all nations; you are going to proclaim this message. And He says that before you even think about going to do that, the Holy Spirit is going to fill you and you are going to be clothed with power from on high.” In other words, Jesus is telling these guys, “Don’t even think about trying to do this on your own.”

And that’s the whole point, showing and sharing the gospel in our lives. What I want to say to you and encourage you with is, if you feel inadequate, if you feel like this is not your thing and you are just not good at introducing others to Christ and telling other people about the gospel. If that’s the way you feel, that’s exactly how you should feel. That’s the whole point.

In Psalm 67, God desires to bless us so that His glory would be made known in all nations. God has designed this whole thing we call evangelism. Designed this whole witnessing thing, so that in the end our weaknesses are put on display and He has to show His strength or else we fall flat on our faces. It is all designed so that you don’t get the credit for leading people to Christ. It is all designed so that His glory is made known and if you have had the opportunity to share the gospel with the people, then you know that it is in those times that the Holy Spirit is clearly showing that it is not you, but it is Him.

(adapted from sermon entitled “You are Not Alone” by David Platt)

KEY VERSE

Acts 1:8

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth..”

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Acts 1:1-11

Introduction

When was the last time you heard news that was so good you couldn't wait to share it with others?

What does it mean to be a witness? Why do you think Jesus chose that word to describe what His followers would be in the world?

Tuesday: Acts 1:4-8; Luke 24:45-49

The Holy Spirit Gives Power

In what ways does the Holy Spirit provide power to the believer? (Acts 1:8; Luke 24:29)

How does the Holy Spirit provide power to be a witness for Jesus?

Why do we need power to share the gospel?

Wednesday: John 14:15-17, 26; John 15:26; John 16:7-14

Characteristics of the Holy Spirit

Who is the Holy Spirit, and what does He do?

What are some misconceptions you may have had about the Holy Spirit?

Thursday: Acts 9:17-22

Filled with the Spirit

Luke, the man God used to write of the books of Luke and Acts, writes about people being filled with the Holy Spirit eight times. What do these verses have in common?

1. Luke 1:13-17:
2. Luke 1:41-42:
3. Luke 1:67-68:
4. Acts 2:4:
5. Acts 4:8:
6. Acts 4:31:
7. Acts 9:17-20:
8. Acts 13:9:

What is the correlation between being filled with the Holy Spirit and speaking about God?

How can the Holy Spirit help us share the gospel?

Friday: John 7:37-39; Matthew 10:19-20

Application

What does it mean to be a witness for Jesus? Are we witnesses if we never share our personal experiences with Jesus Christ?

Why would you say it is essential to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

As a member of the church, how does the Spirit enable you to share the gospel and join in the church's mission?

What is your next step in the mission?