God's Provision, His Powerful Spirit

World Outreach Church Sermon Discussion Guide

Sunday Sermon: September 07, 2025



To fulfill God's purposes for our lives, we need the Holy Spirit's help. The Church has a lot of language about the Holy Spirit, but overall, we have shown very little intent toward inviting God's Spirit and power into our lives. Church, we need to change, and it starts in our hearts by realizing and confessing that we need outcomes we can't deliver through our own strength, sharp ideas, or good planning. As good as those things are, we do not want to depend on outcomes that can solely be defined by our own abilities, skills, or intellect. We have a God-assignment, and we need the power and presence of God to help us navigate what's ahead. We need the Holy Spirit's help throughout the course of each day—and it begins in our homes.

ı. TRAIN THE CHILDREN

Ecclesiastes 11:10 So then, banish anxiety from your heart and cast off the troubles of your body, for youth (childhood) and vigor (the prime of life) are meaningless.

Ephesians 6:4 Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

2 Timothy 3:13–15 ¹³ while evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. ¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

What does intentional discipleship look like, as we train children in the Lord? What happens if we don't take this assignment seriously? What are some practical ways to teach children spiritual practices, such as prayer and Bible study?

II. **NEW VALUATION**

Luke 16:15 He said to them, "You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of men, but God knows your hearts. What is highly valued among men is detestable in God's sight.

1 Peter 3:3–4 3 Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine clothes. 4 Instead, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight.

How do God's standards differ from what the world says is highly valued?

Think of someone who focuses first on refining themselves spiritually. How do their efforts help them reflect God's love and character to the world around them?

III. **BAD NEWS/GOOD NEWS**

Isaiah 60:1–3 ¹ "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. ² See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. ³ Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Colossians 1:10–14 ¹⁰ And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, ¹¹ being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully 12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. ¹³ For **he has rescued** us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

How can your pursuit of godliness positively influence those around you to choose godliness too? When has someone pursuing godliness encouraged you to do the same?

IV. GOD'S PROVISION, HIS POWERFUL SPIRIT

1 Corinthians 12:1, 4–11 ¹ Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant. ... ⁴ There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵ There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶ There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. ⁷ Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

⁸ To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.

What are some ways Christians can exercise their spiritual gifts in their daily lives and in the church? Think of someone whose spiritual gifts have encouraged or strengthened you and share what that person did. How can your spiritual gifts empower you to minister to and serve others?

Acts 3:1–16 ¹ One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer—at three in the afternoon. ² Now a man crippled from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. ³ When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money.

⁴ Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, "Look at us!" ⁵ So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them. ⁶ Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." ⁷ Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong. ⁸ He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God.

⁹ When all the people saw him walking and praising God, ¹⁰ they recognized him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

¹¹ While the beggar held on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon's Colonnade. ¹² When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Men of Israel, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? ¹³ The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. ¹⁴ You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. ¹⁵ You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this.

¹⁶ By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has given this complete healing to him, as you can all see.

How can you discern the movement of the Holy Spirit in your life and in the world around you? What kinds of things show the Holy Spirit is present and moving?

PRAYER

Almighty God, pour out Your Spirit upon us. Let the darkness be dispelled. Awaken Your people to walk uprightly before You. Grant the children and young people understanding hearts that they may know You. Give them a revelation of Yourself which will change the trajectory of their lives. Forgive us for our indifference and now open our eyes to Your purposes. In Jesus' name, amen.