

Spiritual Things

The Power of The Spirit

World Outreach Church
Sermon Discussion Guide
Sunday Sermon: **January 29, 2023**



We have been working to overcome our ignorance, our lack of awareness, of spiritual things—in this session, specifically about the power of the Spirit of God. We cannot out-think, out-organize, or out-work evil. The only thing evil will yield to is a power greater than itself. That power will only come to us from the power of God, and the delivery system for His power is His Holy Spirit.

Luke 4:14 *Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside.*

Power Of Transformation
(Fruit Of The Spirit)

Power To Flourish (Gifts Of
The Spirit)

Power To Establish
(Ministry Gifts)

1. *In what ways has the Spirit of God helped you to discern things outside of your natural capabilities?*

EMPOWERED TO BE WITNESSES (Acts, An Unfolding Story ...)

Acts 1:4–5, 8 ⁴ *On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” . . . ⁸ But **you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”***

2. *God does not tell us everything about His plan at the point of salvation. How has He used the Holy Spirit in your life to help you learn as you grow?*

The Outpouring Of The Spirit

Acts 2:36–41 ³⁶ *“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.” ³⁷ When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” ³⁸ Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.” ⁴⁰ With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹ **Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.***

3. *When was a time you undeniably saw the Holy Spirit’s power at work in or around you?*

A Miracle & The Consequence

Acts 3:6–10 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.*

Acts 4:1–4 ¹ *The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people. ² They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead. ³ They seized Peter and John, and because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day. ⁴ But many who heard the message believed, and **the number of men grew to about five thousand.***

Acts 4:8–14 ⁸ *Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: “Rulers and elders of the people! ⁹ If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed, ¹⁰ then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. ¹¹ He is “the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone. ¹² Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.” ¹³ When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus. ¹⁴ But since they could see the man who had been healed standing there with them, there was nothing they could say.*

Acts 4:18–22 ¹⁸ Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. ¹⁹ But Peter and John replied, “Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God’s sight to obey you rather than God.” ²⁰ For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.” ²¹ After further threats they let them go. They could not decide how to punish them, because all the people were praising God for what had happened. ²² For the man who was miraculously healed was over forty years old.

4. When was a time you were fearful or reluctant to reveal that you are a Christ-follower or acknowledge your spiritual life?

Value Of The Truth

Acts 5:1–5 ¹ Now a man named Ananias, together with his wife Sapphira, also sold a piece of property. ² With his wife’s full knowledge he kept back part of the money for himself, but brought the rest and put it at the apostles’ feet.

³ Then Peter said, “Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land? ⁴ Didn’t it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn’t the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied to men but to God.” ⁵ When Ananias heard this, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard what had happened.

5. What has your attitude been toward the Spirit of God? How is that demonstrated in your language, intent, and invitations?

Life Of Believers & The Consequence

Acts 5:12–16 ¹² The apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers used to meet together in Solomon’s Colonnade. ¹³ No one else dared join them, even though they were highly regarded by the people. ¹⁴ Nevertheless, more and more men and women believed in the Lord and were added to their number. ¹⁵ As a result, people brought the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and mats so that at least Peter’s shadow might fall on some of them as he passed by. ¹⁶ Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those tormented by evil spirits, and all of them were healed.

Acts 5:17–21 ¹⁷ Then the high priest and all his associates, who were members of the party of the Sadducees, were filled with jealousy. ¹⁸ They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail. ¹⁹ But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out. ²⁰ “Go, stand in the temple courts,” he said, “and tell the people the full message of this new life.” ²¹ At daybreak they entered the temple courts, as they had been told, and began to teach the people. When the high priest and his associates arrived, they called together the Sanhedrin—the full assembly of the elders of Israel—and sent to the jail for the apostles.

Acts 5:29–33 ²⁹ Peter and the other apostles replied: “We must obey God rather than men!” ³⁰ The God of our fathers raised Jesus from the dead—whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might give repentance and forgiveness of sins to Israel. ³² We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.” ³³ **When they heard this, they were furious and wanted to put them to death.**

Acts 5:40–42 ⁴⁰ His speech persuaded them. **They called the apostles in and had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.** ⁴¹ The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. ⁴² Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ.

6. In what areas of your life have you felt inadequate or underqualified to serve God? How has the Holy Spirit empowered you in those areas?

PRAYER

Holy Spirit, You are welcome in my life—without reservation, without qualification, without hesitation—I yield to Your authority and presence. I repent of any involvement with the occult and renounce any influence which those experiences may have initiated. Jesus is Lord of my life. The Spirit of the Living God dwells within me, and I ask to be filled to overflowing with His presence. In Jesus’ name, amen.