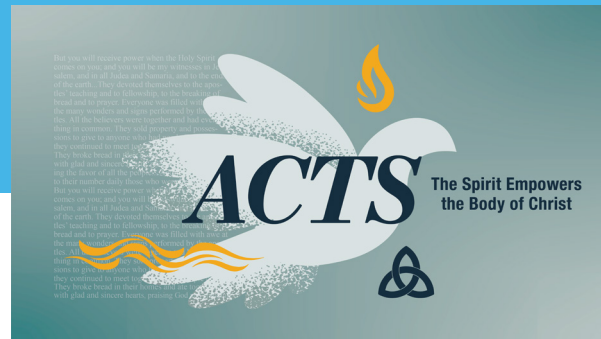


Discussion Questions

April 6, 2025

John 16:5-15 - Living A Spirit-Filled Life



1. Read John 16:5-15

Jesus said the Holy Spirit would convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and guide us into all truth. Why do you think He focused on these roles instead of miracles when preparing His disciples for His departure?

2. The measure of a Spirit-filled life was described as becoming more like Jesus - showing love, joy, peace, patience, etc. (Galatians 5:22-23) - rather than just experiencing supernatural moments.

Where do you see yourself actively growing in reflecting Jesus' character, and where do you feel challenged?

3. In the sermon, James shared a personal story of failing to reflect Jesus with his son, then leaning into the Spirit the next night with a different outcome. Can you think of a recent "ordinary" moment where you either missed or seized an opportunity to let the Spirit shape your response? What happened?

4. N.T. Wright's idea of "colonizing earth with the life of heaven," or "being a small working model of God's Kingdom here on Earth," suggests we're called to embody God's kingdom here and now, not just escape to heaven later.

- What are some possible weaknesses of holding to an "evacuation theology" understanding where our primary goal is just to get to heaven?

- What might it look like for you to bring "heaven" into your workplace, family, or community this week?

5. The sermon used the analogy of "fish-fragrant eggplant" to describe how the Spirit permeates us with Jesus' flavor and fragrance as we are filled and dwell with Him over time. How do you think the world around you - friends, family, coworkers - would describe the "fragrance" your life gives off right now?

6. Living a Spirit-filled life requires intentionality - prayer, Scripture, community, and disciplines like practicing God's presence. What is one practical step you feel the Spirit nudging you to take this week to reorient your heart toward Jesus?

John 16:5-7 (NLT)

But now I am going away to the one who sent me, and not one of you is asking where I am going. Instead, you grieve because of what I've told you. But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Advocate won't come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you.

John 16:8-15 (NLT)

And when he [the Holy Spirit] comes, he will convict the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment. The world's sin is that it refuses to believe in me. Righteousness is available because I go to the Father, and you will see me no more. Judgment will come because the ruler of this world has already been judged. There is so much more I want to tell you, but you can't bear it now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future. He will bring me glory by telling you whatever he receives from me. All that belongs to the Father is mine; this is why I said, 'The Spirit will tell you whatever he receives from me.'

The Role of the Holy Spirit According to Jesus in John 16

Will convict the world regarding...

Sin

Righteousness

Judgment

The Spirit of Truth will guide them into all Truth

Will speak only the words of Jesus

Will Bring glory to Jesus

Dr. N.T. Wright

According to Jesus, the purpose of His Holy Spirit coming is to make all of Jesus available to us at all times, to empower us to continue His ministry here on earth of building His Kingdom on earth as it is in Heaven.

The church is to be a working model of God's Kingdom here on earth.



Fish Fragrant Eggplant

Dr. N.T. Wright - Surprised by Hope

Jesus's resurrection is the beginning of God's new project not to snatch people away from earth to heaven but to colonize earth with the life of heaven. That, after all, is what the Lord's Prayer is about.



Application:

How do you think the world around you - friends, family, coworkers - would describe the "fragrance" your life gives off right now?

Luke 22:19–20 (NLT)

He [Jesus] took some bread and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and gave it to the disciples, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." After supper he took another cup of wine and said, "This cup is the new covenant between God and his people - an agreement confirmed with my blood, which is poured out as a sacrifice for you.