

Key References:

Acts 2:17 (NLT)

¹⁷ 'In the last days,' God says, 'I will pour out my Spirit upon all people.Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young men will see visions, and your old men will dream dreams.

John 14:12 (NLT)

¹² "I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father.

Luke 24:49 (NLT)

49 "And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven."

Ephesians 1:19-22 (NLT)

¹⁹ I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power ²⁰ that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms. ²¹Now he is far above any ruler or authority or power or leader or anything else—not only in this world but also in the world to come. ²² God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church. Reflecting back on the past weekend's sermon, was there anything you heard for the first time, that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

1 – From Information to Revelation

Mike began his sermon by saying that, "Information becomes revelation through the power of the Holy Spirit." We have all had different experiences and influences that affect our view of how God's Spirit works. As you look back in years past, how would you describe your understanding of the Holy Spirit? Has it changed over time? If so, explain.

2 – The Difference the Holy Spirit Makes

Read John 14:12 and Luke 24:49. How would you describe the difference between living with the Holy Spirit in our lives, yet doing ministry by our own efforts, and being empowered by the Holy Spirit for life and ministry? (Mike used the example of trying to cut down a tree with an axe or handsaw versus using a chain saw ... what would your example be?)

3 – The Same Mighty Power

Read Ephesians 1:19-22. In this passage, Paul prays for Christians like you and I, asking the Lord to help us understand the "incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe in him." He also shares that we have the "same mighty power", through the Spirit in our lives, that raised Jesus from the dead. Is there anything specific you sense the Holy Spirit wanting you to grow in, guide you toward, or people you hope to reach? If so, explain.

As a Connect Group, consider taking some time to pray specifically for the items shared in the response to the question above, inviting the Holy Spirit to bring understanding and power.

* Note: Did you know there is an entire course called, "Getting to Know the Holy Spirit" at <u>oceansidechurch.ca</u>?