



Text the word "FIRST" to 317-350-1996 to join us in completing weekly Faith First challenges starting in September.

ACCESSING THE HOLY SPIRIT'S POWER

BIG IDEA

Where you can't, God's Spirit can.

SCRIPTURE

Please read Galatians 5:16, Acts 1:8a, 2:2-4 before attending Bible study.

OPENER

What is something you thought you could do, only to discover you couldn't.

QUESTIONS

1. Is there anything in your life you know the Lord wants you to do, but you either don't know how or you lack the courage and/or power? What "Goliath" (previous fear/failure, lack of confidence, lack of experience, etc.) in your life is stopping you?
2. Before David went out to face Goliath, Saul gave him his armor, but David chose not to wear it. What did he have that allowed him to defeat Goliath without the armor? (1 Samuel 16:13)
3. Think about your life and a time when you relied on your own abilities or the people in authority in your home, school or workplace instead of the Holy Spirit. Did your skills or the influence of those in authority around you cause your success or did those things get in the way of your success? Share. Was that same principle true for David with Saul's armor? How was he ultimately successful?
4. We learned that David defeated Goliath because the Spirit of the Lord was upon him in power. Later in his life, David experienced heartaches and disappointments. Some examples include Bathsheba (2 Samuel 11:4), taking many wives and concubines (2 Samuel 5:13 & Deuteronomy 17:14-17), Tamar, Amnon and Absalom (2 Samuel 13). What can we learn about walking in the Spirit from the life of David?
5. Pastor John spoke about when his young son began to walk and how walking is a learned skill. Jack was wobbly walking until he learned the skill. Walking in the Spirit requires a set of skills too. Discuss what you as a believer can do to learn how to consistently walk in the Spirit.
6. In Acts 1:8, the disciples were commanded to be witnesses to share the good news. As a witness, you need to share what you know to be true from your experiences (not what you think or feel). "A truthful witness saves lives," (Proverbs 14:25). How do you witness to your neighbors, family, coworkers and unsaved peoples around the world? Discuss and give examples. If you experience "roadblocks" how can those be overcome?



7. Think of where you are in the diagram below: on the riverbank of disobedience, on the riverbank of self-effort, or in the river of God's current. In the sermon, Pastor John shared how each of us should Obey, Gather, and Ask regarding the Holy Spirit. How will incorporating those three directives keep you in the middle of God's current?



8. Pray every day this week: "God, I want to walk in your Spirit. Show me what to do today."

TAKEAWAY

The role of the Holy Spirit in your life is to empower you to do God's will.

We experience the Holy Spirit when we:

- Obey what God has clearly said.
- Gather with other believers.
- Ask for the Holy Spirit's power and direction.

The only person who can stop you from doing the will of God is... YOU!

REFERENCE

1 Samuel 16:13; 17:48-50

Proverbs 14:25

Acts 1:8; 2:1-4; 9:31

Romans 7:15

Galatians 5:16-18

DIGGING DEEPER

We all receive the Holy Spirit when we accept Christ as our Lord and Savior, but many of us have not tapped into that Godly power in our lives. Realizing you have the Holy Spirit in you should encourage and embolden you! Read these Biblical stories of people who received the Holy Spirit and used it for God's purpose. What would it look like if you used that power from the Holy Spirit this week? What could/would you do for God's Kingdom?

- Joshua (Numbers 27:18)
- Othniel (Judges 3:10)
- Gideon (Judges 6:34)
- Samson (Judges Ch. 13-16)
- Saul (1 Samuel 10:9-10) The Holy Spirit later departed from Saul (1 Samuel 16:14)
- Ezekiel (Ezekiel 2:2)