

LIFE Study Notes

You started so well!
W/C 18th Oct 2020

In the early church, one of the key evidences, that a person was a true believer, was that they were filled with the Spirit. When Peter went to the home of Cornelius he witnessed, as Jesus had promised (Acts 1:5), the Holy Spirit being poured on Cornelius and those in his household. Consequently, he reported this to the leaders of the church in Jerusalem (Acts 11) and testified that God did not have any favourites and that he'd poured out the gift of the Spirit on Jews and Gentiles alike.

The marker of God's acceptance into God's family was no longer circumcision but the filling of the Spirit, which crossed all ethnic boundaries.

The early church had a deep dependence on Holy the Spirit. He convicted people of their sins, led them to the truth of salvation and empowered them for daily living.

The Galatians had experienced the life-transforming power of the Spirit, but their confidence in Him was undermined by false teachers.



Ice Breaker: What do you understand about the trinity? Discuss! – But don't spend too long!



UP: Spend some time in worship: You might like to choose a song to play or plan an alternative act of worship that is appropriate to your group.

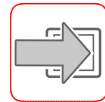


UP: Looking at God's word together:
Read: Galatians 3:1-5

Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think that Paul began with such strong words (3:1)?
2. Paul references each person of the Trinity. What does this tell us about the different roles each person plays in revealing the truth about salvation?
3. Why do you think that the Galatians had begun to rely on their own efforts, in their spiritual walk, rather than relying on the Spirit (3:3)?

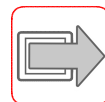
4. What do you think were the miracles that God was working among the Galatians (3:5)?
5. It's easy to blame others for putting up stumbling blocks to our spiritual growth. In what way do we need to take responsibility to nurture our own spiritual walk?
6. How much dependence do we put on the Holy Spirit for our daily walk with Christ?
7. What does experiencing the Holy Spirit look like?



IN: Spend some time in prayer.

▪ **Encourage the members of the group to join in with the Wednesday evening prayer meetings.**

- Pray for those who have recently lost loved ones.
- Pray for our missionary links.
- Pray for the financial challenges faced by the church.
- Pray for the leadership team as they seek wisdom in leading the church.
- Pray that we all might grow to know Jesus more and gain a passion to make Him known to others.



OUT: The quote by Tozer below, is quite telling. What does it tell us about the effectiveness, or not, of the church today?

"If the Holy Spirit was withdrawn from the church today, 95 percent of what we do would go on and no one would know the difference."

A.W. Tozer