

A Spirit-led Church

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The church depends upon the activity of the Holy Spirit, without which its effective and faithful service is impossible. May we walk in the Spirit and be a Spirit-led church.

› INTRO

Have you ever been in a situation where you were the leader, but you didn't know which way to go?

That is where the apostles were...

Like we looked at last week, the apostles and disciples followed the instruction to go to dangerous Jerusalem and wait for the Holy Spirit.

But what next?

Jesus gave a colossal mission and the the provision of the Holy Ghost.

But what about everything in between?

This was up to the work of the Holy Ghost, Who they received at Pentecost.

The Bible Exposition Commentary Chapter Two: Power from Heaven! (Acts 2)

Pentecost means "fiftieth" because this feast was held fifty days after the Feast of Firstfruits (Lev. 23:15–22). The calendar of Jewish feasts in Leviticus 23 is an outline of the work of Jesus Christ. Passover pictures His death as the Lamb of God (John 1:29; 1 Cor. 5:7), and the Feast of Firstfruits pictures His resurrection from the dead (1 Cor. 15:20–23). Fifty days after Firstfruits is the Feast of Pentecost, which pictures the formation of the church. At Pentecost, the Jews celebrated the giving of the Law, but Christians celebrate it because of the giving of the Holy Spirit to the church.

The Holy Spirit **baptizes** believers into the church body at salvation

1 Corinthians 12:13 KJV 1900

¹³ For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether *we be* Jews or Gentiles, whether *we be* bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

Ephesians 2:21–22 KJV 1900

²¹ In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:

²² In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

Holy Spirit baptism happens at salvation

Symbolic water baptism should be followed shortly after salvation

While we are all part of the Body of Christ, we operate through local churches until the time we are all united in the presence of our Saviour.

The Holy Spirit **indwells** believers, who make up the church

1 Corinthians 3:16 KJV 1900

¹⁶ Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

2 Corinthians 6:16 KJV 1900

¹⁶ And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

The Holy Spirit enables the church to function as **the body of Christ**

1 Corinthians 12:7 KJV 1900

⁷ But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

Romans 12:5 KJV 1900

⁵ So we, *being* many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

The Holy Spirit enables **Christian unity**

Ephesians 4:3-4 KJV 1900

³ Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

⁴ *There is* one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

The church worships, serves and speaks by the Holy Spirit

The church **worships** by the Spirit

Acts 2:11 KJV 1900

¹¹ Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.

John 4:24 KJV 1900

²⁴ God *is* a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth.

The church **serves** by the Spirit

Romans 12:6-8 KJV 1900

⁶ Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, *let us prophesy* according to the proportion of faith;

⁷ Or ministry, *let us wait on our* ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;

⁸ Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, *let him do it* with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

See also 1 Co 12:7-11; Eph 4:7-13

The church **speaks** by the Spirit

Acts 4:8 KJV 1900

⁸ Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,

Acts 6:10 KJV 1900

¹⁰ And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.

The Holy Spirit **glorifies** Jesus Christ and His message to the church

Revelation 2:7 KJV 1900

⁷ He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

John 14:26 KJV 1900

²⁶ But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

The Holy Spirit **empowers** the church in it's mission

The church **fulfils** its mission by the Spirit

Acts 1:8 KJV 1900

⁸ But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 4:31 KJV 1900

³¹ And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

The Spirit **directs** the church's missionary enterprise

Acts 13:2-3 KJV 1900

² As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

³ And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid *their* hands on them, they sent *them* away.

Acts 16:6 KJV 1900

⁶ Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia,

› CONCLUSION

We need to be in tune with and dependent upon the Holy Spirit in our church.

Will you ask the Holy Spirit to guide you every day?

Will you sincerely ask the Holy Spirit to help you listen to the preaching of God's Word and make any needed changes in mindset and life as you do?

Let's be a Spirit-led church.