"The Holy Spirit-Our Superpower"

Zoe Christian Fellowship of Whittier Bishop Edward A. Smith

INTRODUCTION TO LESSON

Life Group Lesson Objective: Understanding the Power of the Holy Spirit in the Believer

Life Group Leader preparation:

Ephesians 6:10 – Finally my brethren be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might.

Eph 3:16 – That he would grant you, according to his glory to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man.

The Holy Spirit - the believers "source of power" The Holy Spirit – our Helper

• guides believers into all truth - John 15:26

When Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit manifested in the form of a dove – (transform)

As Jesus was preparing for His death, burial and resurrection...He was also preparing His followers for a life after He left this earth. God knew that we couldn't live in this earth and fulfill His promises, His purpose, and His lifestyle without His power to live beyond the natural limitations of humans.

In Matthew 28:18 - Jesus said "all <u>authorit</u>y has been given to me in Heaven and on Earth. NASJesus has the power to influence or command.

• He was speaking to his eleven disciples about the authority he had been given by God the Father; now he is passing that authority on to his disciples:

THE PROMISE – Luke 24:49 - Jesus said to the eleven, and behold I am sending forth the promise of my Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high...

THE INSTRUCTIONS – but wait for the promise of the Father, which saith he, ye have heard of me. Act 1:4

Week #1: The Power of the Spirit Filled Believer

Group Discussion Questions: What is your definition of power in one word? Influence, authority, control, command, leverage

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What is the opposite of the power? Weakness, helplessness, powerlessness

Have you received the Holy Spirit since you believed?

In 2 Peter 1:3 Peter writes: "God has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness" Peter was one of the eleven whom Jesus told not to go anywhere until you receive power. Now Peter is writing that God has given us his divine power for everything we need for life and godliness.

<u>Superpower at Work</u>: Luke 5:1-11 – After Jesus teaches the people...... he instructs Peter to "launch out into the deep to catch fish" but Peter had already been fishing all night.... then a miracle happened...

We may have done something "out of the normal" "out of a place you are comfortable in"; to experience the SUPERPOWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Acts 1:8 - Jesus said "but you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you.

Satan has tried to get Christians to operate and believe in their own natural abilities. Now we all have God given natural abilities, but we still need the "supernatural power" of the Holy Spirit to be active and operating in our everyday lives.

 Don't allow complicated things to sway you – or learn to NOT walk according to your senses

Discussion: What are some of your own natural abilities?

Let's be honest – Discussion? How has the Holy Spirit influenced or given you leverage in your own natural abilities?

Week #2: Power of Faith by the Holy Spirit

Group Discussion Question: How does the Holy Spirit "help" our faith?

Romans 10:17 – So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God.

"Knowing this first, that no prophecy of scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit" – 2 Peter 1:20-21

"We will not go far before we discover that the same work that we see ascribed in one place to the power of the Word is in other places credited to the Holy Spirit. The explanation of this is simple. The Word of God is the instrument through which the Holy Spirit does His work. The Word of God is the "sword of the Spirit" (Ephesians 6:17). – R.A. Torrey

(Read Hebrews 11)

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Heb 11:1 - Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance for things that we cannot see. NLT

The power of faith - is believing and receiving what God has promised.

- Our source of faith started when we received Christ as Savior, by believing in our hearts and confessing or acknowledging with our mouth that Jesus is Lord.

1 John 5:4 - For whatsoever is born of God overcomes the world: and this is the victory that overcomes the world, even our faith.

<u>Ability to cast out Demons</u> - Matt 12:28 Jesus said if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come

<u>The power to transform -</u> I will put my Spirit in you and cause you to walk in my statutes - Ezekiel 36:27

How has the superpower of the Holy Spirit- caused faith to work in your life? Give an example of the superpower manifested through you by faith.

Let's be honest – Discussion: Give an example of the Holy Spirit "leading" you to a scripture and that by your faith caused a transformation or miracle for you.

Week #3: Miracles in Our Everyday Life

Group Discussion Questions - When was the last time you witnessed or performed a miracle? Or believed for a miracle?

Jesus performed miracles all the time. Scripture says the same spirit that raised Jesus Christ from the dead dwells in us - What has happened that/if we don't see miracles in our life? If the power of the Holy Spirit is in us...what has happened? Something to think about.... God the Father.... God the Son.... God the Holy Spirit......does not change!

It is a lack of faith?

Have we stopped expecting the supernatural?

Jesus is the same yesterday and forever....

The power is the same......

Are we trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit, expecting the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit to manifest in our personal lives?

How can we hinder the superpower from operating in our lives?

Is it fear?

Are <u>we laboring in our own strength</u>? If we are going to understand the power of the Holy Spirit, we MUST know the Word of God....

Jesus said – "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light – Matt 11:28-29 NIV

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Matt 11:28-29 – King James said, "I will give you rest". Laboring in our strength causes the Holy Spirit to be grieved...

Let's be honest – Discussion: Are we expecting the SuperPower to show up...have we made ourselves available?

Week #4: "Activating the Holy Spirit in Your Life" – Ken Malone, Charisma Magazine - 2017

Group Discussion Question: What can you add to the following list?

Faith—Shed the victim mentality and believe God for a miracle. Speaking God's word over you and your family will unlock the resources of heaven. Read Heb. 11:1-6 and Rom. 10:8,17. Get active in God's Word.

Prayer—Talk to God like you're talking to a friend. The Lord loves to communicate with you. This creates an avenue of intimacy with the Lord. Don't be religious—you don't have to say everything right. Just talk to Him (Matt. 6:9-14).

Worship—When worship becomes a focus in your life, it creates an atmosphere of His presence. Open your mouth and begin to sing. Sing unto the Lord a new song (Ps. 22:3).

Intercession—Taking up the cause of Christ in the earth puts you in a position of partnering with Him. Partner with Him through intercession (1 Tim. 1:1-3).

Pray in Tongues—When you pray in tongues, you edify your spirit and build up your faith. If you don't pray in tongues, ask Jesus to fill you with the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues (Acts 2:1-4; 1 Cor. 14:4; Jude 1:20).

Forgive—Forgiveness is not an emotion but an act of your will that can change your emotions. If someone has wounded you, begin to say, "I forgive (put in their name) in Jesus' name." Keep doing this every time Satan brings up the offense (John 20:23; Mark 11:25).

Prophesy—Prophesy the word of the Lord over your life. Prophesy His written word but also a word spoken to you. Keep doing this until it comes to pass (Is. 55:10-11).

Walk in Righteousness—Realize that Jesus bore your sin that you might be made righteous through Him. Begin to declare that you are righteous because of Him (2 Cor. 5:21).