

YOU TELL THEM!

Acts 1:8

A Quick Look Back: *It's a good thing He's gone!*

- ▶ From **with** us to **in** us!
John 14:16-20/ Galatians 2:20/ John 16:7-13 & Acts 1:1-8
- ▶ The same **Spirit** & **power** Jesus had!
Matthew 3:13 - 4:24 & Luke 3:21-23/ Matthew 12:24-37

A Closer Look At The Holy Spirit:

- ▶ **An Obvious Question:** *Why Can't We Do Miracles Left and Right?*
John 12:49-50 & 14:10, 31/ Acts 16:7, Philippians 2:13 & Ephesians 2:10
 - We're given power to carry out **God's assignment**, not **our wish list**.
- ▶ **The Inside-Out Factor:** *How Does the Holy Spirit Change Us?*
John 14:26/ 1 Corinthians 2:10-16/ Philippians 2:13
 - ① Inner **Promptings**
 - ② Spiritual **Enlightenment**
 - ③ Changed **Desires**
 - ④ Spiritual **Power**

Witnessing 101:

Matthew 28:18-20/ Acts 1:4-8 & John 16:7-13/ Matthew 4:23-5:1 & 2 Timothy 2:24-26

- ▶ If we won't, **no one else will!**
- ▶ Warning: Never **try this on your own!**
- ▶ Follow the Jesus Pattern:
 - ① Look for **open doors**.
 - ② Earn **the right to be heard**.
 - ③ Speak the truth in **love**, not **anger** – or don't **speak at all**.

TAKING IT HOME

As a result of this week's teaching and study, do you feel God nudging you toward an open door, reminding you to speak the truth in love, or giving you the opportunity to earn the right to be heard? If so, what is one step you can take to follow His leading?

Reading recommendation for the "What Difference Does it Make?" series:
The Calvary Road by Roy Hession - Available at the North Coast Corner Bookstore in the North Coast Live lobby.



A number of North Coast Growth Groups have been making a difference in our community. They have done everything from serving at shelters to throwing baby showers. We believe the impact of serving in our community not only meets real needs, but also brings credibility to the message of Christ's love. If your group hasn't done a project yet, or if you want to personally help with one on your own, check out these opportunities:

Michaëlle House: Michaëlle's House is hosting their annual fundraising walk on May 13. They would love to have a Growth Group come help with set up first thing in the morning and a group to help tear down that afternoon.

St. Clare's Home: ROOM ORGANIZATION- St. Clare's Home has two rooms that are badly in need of cleaning and organization. This would be a great project for a group to take a couple of hours and serve together.

To sign up for these two projects or many others, check out our website at www.northcoastchurch.com/service

United State Postal Services Food Drive: On May 13th, your group could help stack, sort, and carry the food from the United State Postal Service's Food Drive for donations to Vista's Catholic Charities Food Bank. There will be two shifts: 4:00-6:30 pm and 6:30-9:00 pm. Food will be provided! To sign up, please call Melissa by May 5th at (760) 631-4792 option 5, ext. 11.

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- ▶ The same _____ & _____ Jesus had!
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A Closer Look At The Holy Spirit:

- ▶ **An Obvious Question:** *Why Can't We Do Miracles Left and Right?*
John 12:49-50 & 14:10, 31/ Acts 16:7, Philippians 2:13 & Ephesians 2:10
 - We're given power to carry out _____, not _____.
- ▶ **The Inside-Out Factor:** *How Does the Holy Spirit Change Us?*
John 14:26/ 1 Corinthians 2:10-16/ Philippians 2:13
 - ① Inner _____.
 - ② Spiritual _____.
 - ③ Changed _____.
 - ④ Spiritual _____.

Witnessing 101:

Matthew 28:18-20/ Acts 1:4-8 & John 16:7-13/ Matthew 4:23-5:1 & 2 Timothy 2:24-26

- ▶ If we won't, _____!
- ▶ Warning: Never _____!
- ▶ Follow the Jesus Pattern:
 - ① Look for _____.
 - ② Earn _____.
 - ③ Speak the truth in _____, not _____ – or don't _____.

Growth Group Homework

For the week of April 30, 2006

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what did you find most challenging, helpful or interesting? Did you find yourself taking notes about any of the points to help you remember?

MY STORY

1. Pastor Larry took some time to help us understand how the Holy Spirit works to change us. Have you ever seen the Holy Spirit influence your desires, promptings, or understanding? If so, what did that look like in your life?

2. Take a minute and remember a few of the people who have made a difference in your life. How have they been used to influence your journey with God, your values and priorities or your behavior?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. The life and witness of the Apostle Paul help us understand what a contagious Christian can look like. He was committed to doing what it takes to reach others for Christ. What does 1 Corinthians 9:19-23 reveal about his motives and methods?

Paul used different methods to reach different people. Although the message doesn't change, there are many methods of "preaching." What are some ways we can communicate the good news with and without words?

2. Pastor Larry encouraged us to follow Jesus' example and "earn the right to be heard" with the people God has put in our path. How do each of the following passages help shape the way you see and influence those who have not made a decision to follow Him yet?

Luke 15:1-7

Romans 10:14-15

Matthew 5:13-16

How can we safeguard our witness so we don't lose our "saltiness" or dim our "light"?

3. Philip was an effective leader in the early church and he pointed many people toward a relationship with Jesus. (Acts, chapters 6 & 8) Perhaps his most famous encounter was with an Ethiopian official riding in a chariot. Read Acts 8:26-40 and jot down any of the principles from this week's sermon that show up in this encounter and then answer the questions below.

What "open doors" do you think Philip found by simply "staying near" the Ethiopian's chariot?

How would you describe the "good news about Jesus" to someone who asked? What Scriptures might you take them to?