



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Worth the Wait

Acts 1:4

1. This week, we continued our sermon series focusing on the Holy Spirit.

Take a moment to read first half of Acts chapter 1.

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach 2 until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. 3 After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. 4 On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. 5 For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” 6 Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7 He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” 9 After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

What are some of your thoughts and feelings as you read this Scripture?

2. Pastor Dan opened the sermon by sharing some of his personal testimony and repeating a quote from Francis Chan that Pastor Tom had used from the previous weeks' sermon.

“Those of us who believe in Jesus would never deny the truth that we have the Spirit of God living inside of us. I’m just not convinced we have internalized this truth and enjoyed its blessing. It seems that so many Christians only have head knowledge and have not understood or owned it.”

- Forgotten God, Francis Chan

Please share your personal story about when you first encountered the Holy Spirit, or even better, when you realized you could walk in the power of the Spirit every day.

3. The first fill in of the sermon was, "While waiting, we can wander or we can withstand." We see in 3 of the 4 Gospels that Jesus was able to withstand the temptation offered by the Devil because he was led by the Spirit and knew the truth of scripture. Matthew 4:1, Mark 1:12, and Luke 4:1 all point to Jesus being led by the Spirit.

What do you think it means to be led by the Spirit?

Can you share a time when you were waiting and found yourself being pulled to wander?

Can you share a recent time in your life when you were led by the spirit?

4. The second fill in suggested that, "While waiting, we can whine or we can work."

Have you ever found yourself whining or complaining about God's timing, maybe even just internally?

If this does happen to you, can you share what circumstances most often take place in your life that position you to feel like you should be whining and complaining?

5. The final fill-in stated, "While we are waiting, we can worry or we can worship." Some people are more prone to worry and anxiety than others.

Read **Philippians 4:4, 4:6-7**.

Does knowing the truth of scripture position you personally to overcome stress, worry, doubt, fear, and anxiety?