



### SIGNIFICANT MOMENTS

When did you first own a Bible? What do you remember first reading?

Was there a time when you really wanted to 'dig in' and study the Bible?

A good time to share stories

### LEARN FROM GOD'S WORD, THE BIBLE

We are continuing in a series about God, the Holy Spirit, the third person in the Trinity. The focus this week is on the Spirit's role to lead us to the truth. Jesus promised the coming and help of the Spirit in his time with the disciples just before He was arrested. Read the following promises of Jesus and consider what the Holy Spirit does to help us know God.

The following passages are very straight forward. They reveal what the Holy Spirit will do for the church going forward.

John 14:16-17

John 14:25-26

John 15:26-27

John 16:13-14

Jesus spoke of "Another Helper" in 14:16 ("Helper" is literally, 'One who comes alongside'). How is he 'another?' (Compare this to John 1:9.)

Jesus came as the "light" to the world to help us know God and the gospel. Now the Holy Spirit will do the work of enlightenment (illumination).

What do you notice from the examples of the Holy Spirit "illuminating / enlightening" believers in the following passages?

Ephesians 1:18

The Holy Spirit enlightens our hearts, minds, emotions, and produces a calling, a hope, and assurance.

Ephesians 3:16-19

This passage is an amazing list of the work of the Spirit in our lives.

- He is God and therefore glorious
- He gives us strength and power in our inner being
- He causes Christ to dwell in our hearts through faith. (Remember, He also gives us the mind of Christ)
- He enables us to be full of love
- He enables us to grasp the amazing love of Christ and
- He enables us to be filled with the fullness of God

1 Thessalonians 1:5; 2:13

The Holy Spirit works through people with power and brings conviction.

The Holy Spirit delivers words from God which bring belief.

According to “John 17:3, 7-8”, what was the overall goal of Jesus’ coming into the world? How does the Holy Spirit help?

17:3 Jesus came that we might know God which is eternal life.

17:7-8 Jesus was empowered by the Holy Spirit. He shared the words that the Father gave Him, and the Holy Spirit convicted and convinced people that these were God’s words. In addition, they also believed that Jesus came from and was sent by the Father.

According to 1 Corinthians 2:7-16, there are two kinds of wisdom. What are they and what is the Holy Spirit’s role in helping us?

Worldly wisdom, thoughts and opinions that are not from God.

God’s wisdom, not understood by people without the Holy Spirit. These are things that came from the mind of God, things that God has prepared for those who love him. They are revealed by the Holy Spirit who knows the mind of God.

These things were passed on to Paul and he passed them on to others by the Holy Spirit who can also teach others who “love God.”

This is a picture of making disciples who make disciples.

A person without the Spirit does not and cannot accept these things.

A person with the Spirit can understand these things because they have been given the mind of Christ.

AMAZING!!

## **DISCUSS TOGETHER**

Most of us have grown up with copies of the Bible available. Knowing that few common people have owned a Bible throughout history (including in America until 1830 AD), do you think it has become just another book on the shelf?

Opinion question for discussion

In the final hours before the cross, Jesus made much of the work of the Holy Spirit to teach and lead us into the truth. How does this happen in your own life? What practices have helped you treasure and share God’s words?

This is designed to give you time to share and encourage one another.

There is a danger of becoming like the Pharisees who knew the words of the Scripture but didn’t listen to the Spirit to convict or enlighten them. What are your thoughts and feelings about this danger?

I’ve done it – just read the Bible for information or even tried to impress people that I knew things from the Bible that I hadn’t even submitted in my own life.

This is a REAL DANGER in America where we are information driven.

C.C. Ryrie wrote, “Ultimately, it is the Spirit who is the direct connection between the mind of God as revealed in the Scriptures and the mind of the believer seeking to understand the Scriptures.” Is this true? If so, what do you understand from this?

### **APPLY IT THIS WEEK**

In the book of John, chapter six, Jesus shared some difficult and challenging words. Some people withdrew and stopped walking with and listening to Him. "So Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you also want to go away?" Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life" (John 6:67-68). If this is true, we should give His words priority in our time, attention, and direction. Perhaps open the Bible to the "Gospel of John" and ask the Holy Spirit to guide you into the truth of God's life-giving words. There is nothing better!

### **PLEASE PRAY**

- Please pray for our students and educators finishing the school year
- Pray for the Middle Schoolers and leaders doing a mission week in June
- Pray for people in your world that you are helping to follow Jesus

May the Holy Spirit of Truth give you God's wisdom and understanding.

Grace to you,

Steve