The Empowerment of the Holy Spirit

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Pastor Michael Esposito

FOOTHILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH

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1. **When the Father gives you an assignment, he doesn't expect you to fulfill it in your own strength.**

Luke 24:46-49 "...This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, [47]and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. [48]You are witnesses of these things. [49]I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." (NIV=New International Version)

Luke 24:51 "While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven." (NIV)

2. **The book of Acts is about worldwide evangelism done by the people of God who are empowered by the Holy Spirit!**

Acts 1:5 "For John baptized with water, but in a few days, you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." (NIV)

Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you: and you will be my witnesses..." (NIV)

**The word "power" is translated from the Greek word "dynamis" which is where we get the English word "dynamite."

- So, the empowerment of the Holy Spirit is the explosive power of God that gives us strength, ability, capability, or might.
- The Holy Spirit gives us the divine enabling to accomplish what God sends us to do.
- This power gives believers the ability to testify about Jesus with boldness and effectiveness.

3. **Tongues was a supernatural sign that the gospel was for every tribe, tongue, and ethnic group.**

Acts 2:4 "All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them." (NIV)

- These were not a heavenly tongue
- It wasn't a personal pray life tongue
- It wasn't a tongue that needed an interpretation
- The men were supernaturally speaking in a language of another people group not their own.

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4. **Acts 2:17-21 is the beginning of the fulfillment of Joel 2:28-32. (NIV)**

    - The last days are the days between the ascension of Jesus into heaven and the day he returns for His church. We are living in the last days
    - The Holy Spirit will be poured out upon the lives of Christians young and old, men and women, slave and free
    - In this time anyone who calls on the name of the Lord for salvation will be saved.
    - The signs of the end of the age have not happened yet
    - The day of Pentecost was the beginning of this prophecy, and the prophecy is still being fulfilled today.

5. **The empowerment of the Holy Spirit is for the purpose of preaching the gospel with power, boldness, being unashamed and effective. To fulfill the things God calls you to do.**

    In Acts 2:22-35 (NIV), we see Peter the coward now turned into Peter the courageous, bold, and unashamed of the Jesus Christ and his gospel.

    Acts 2:36-39 "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah." [37] When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" [38] Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. [39] The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call." (NIV)

    Acts 2:40-41 "With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." [41] Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. (NIV)

    - Peter's words were empowered by the Holy Spirit, The Spirit convicted people of their sins (they were cut to the heart, convicted of their sin) and they cried out "what must we do"?
    - Peter told them to "repent and be baptized," and 3,000 people were added to the church that day
    - Peter said this promise is for you and all who are far off, all who call on the name of the Lord!

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