

Acts of Jesus – part 4

--Last time we were together we saw what it means to live a full life as a believer: it means to have a “full” life, that is, to live in the fullness of the Spirit. **I Sam. 10:6**

--God has saved and left us here to accomplish His purposes:

Divine purposes cannot be comprehended let alone carried out without divine power.

--Part of God’s Divine purpose for us is that we have a full and meaningful life, but too many Christians barely eke out a spiritual existence here and never unwrap gift of abundant life He gave to us.

--Sure you’re going to survive, but life would be so much better if you’d unwrap the secrets of the Spirit filled life.

--Last time we started a study of the Holy Spirit and His coming on the day of Pentecost

--Since a good definition of the Church is: Those people in whom God dwells through His Holy Spirit--this is a subject we cannot just touch on because it is central to who we are.

1. We are going to continue that study tonight

--Let me begin by saying that it is not easy being the Holy Spirit: **I Cor. 2:14**

--He has a history of being: Resisted (v. 14a), Ridiculed (v. 14b), Misunderstood (v. 14c)

--With this as His record I think it would be easier to understand why we tend know the least about the Person and work of the Holy Spirit.

--Probably the most important question is: “who is the Spirit”: **He is God**

--Of course, there are many verses which demonstrate that God and the Spirit of God are synonymous. **Ps. 139:7**

--Just common sense would say that the spirit of something is the essence of it, likewise the Spirit of God is the very essence of God Himself.

--If anyone has a question as to His equality with God and His place in the Trinity, let them keep this verse in mind: **Matthew 12:31-32**

2. I’m going to be spending the rest of my time explaining to you why this is so.

--Why is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit the unforgivable sin? Simply put: Because it puts a person outside God’s forgiveness (notice: “will not forgive” not “cannot forgive”)

--A Believer cannot commit this sin. Why? You’ll see!

What the Spirit does for us as believers:

1. The Spirit convicts of sin and wrong doing **John 16:7-11**
2. The Spirit births us into God’s family **Titus 3:5, John 3:5**
3. The Spirit guides us into all truth **John 16:13**
4. The Spirit transforms us. **II Cor. 3:18**
5. The Spirit seals us. **Eph. 1:13-14**
6. The Spirit lives in us. **Rom. 8:9**

--He give us the ability to call Jesus Lord: **I Corinthians 12:3**

--He also gives us gifts: **I Corinthians 12:3-7,**

--Produces fruit in us: **Galatians 5:22-23**

--It should be clear that to resist Him and blaspheme Him is the unpardonable sin:

--A person who does such:

-Does not receive conviction about sin

-Does not receive birth into God’s family

-Is not guided into all truth

- Is not transformed
- Is not sealed
- Is not able to call Jesus Lord
- Does not have the Spirit living in them.

When you buy a car, there are certain things you get standard, that is, things that every car like that one has. But there are also things that come as additions that you can buy to enhance the cars looks and performance. These are called **options**.

The Christian life in some ways is like that. The things we've looked at today come as part of the standard package for all believers. But there are Things you have to ask for that will significantly enhance your performance in God's kingdom.

--The Spirit certainly does reside in all believers. But He most certainly does not preside over all believers.

--**Galatians 5:24-25**

--The Spirit's **presence** is standard but His **filling** is optional.

--Can you survive without it? Sure, but not abundantly!!

A full life for us is a "Full" life----are you living it?

The glove cannot do anything by itself, but when my hand is in it, it can do many things.

True, it is not the glove, but my hand in the glove that acts. We are gloves. It is the Holy Spirit in us who is the hand, who does the job. We have to make room for the hand so that every finger is filled.

The goal of every glove is to be filled