

CORNERSTONE

DISCIPLESHIP

GROUPS

The Essential Spirit, part 3
Pastor Andrew Burns
Message from Sunday, June 14, 2026

Sermon Recap

This week's message focused on 1 Corinthians 14, which provides instruction about how to use the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Key themes included:

- The Holy Spirit reveals Jesus and takes what belongs to Him to declare it to us
- Prophecy is speaking forth by divine inspiration for edification, exhortation, and comfort
- Praying in tongues builds up the believer personally
- All gifts should be exercised in love
- The baptism in the Holy Spirit is a subsequent experience that empowers all believers

Discussion Questions

Understanding the Holy Spirit's Role

1. **John 16:14** says the Holy Spirit "will glorify me [Jesus] for he will take what is mine and declare it to you." How does this shape your understanding of what the Holy Spirit wants to communicate to you personally?
2. **Read Acts 1:8.** Pastor Andrew stated that "life without the Holy Spirit is like putting regular unleaded gasoline into a space shuttle." What does this analogy mean to you? In what areas of your life do you feel like you're running on "regular unleaded" instead of "rocket fuel"?

Prophecy and Building Up the Body

- **Read 1 Corinthians 14:3.** Prophecy is for edification, exhortation and comfort." Can you share a time when God laid something on your heart to share with someone else? What happened?
- **Prophecy isn't just foretelling the future, but can be as simple as a timely word of encouragement inspired by the Holy Spirit?** What might hold people back from operating in this gift?
- **Read 1 Thessalonians 5:20-21.** How do we "weigh and test" prophecy according to the message? Why is this important rather than just accepting or rejecting all prophetic words?

Praying in Tongues

- **According to 1 Corinthians 14:4 and Jude 20, praying in tongues "builds up" or "edifies" yourself.** For those who pray in tongues, how has this practice strengthened your faith? For those who don't, what questions do you have about this gift?
- **Pastor Andrew explained that tongues is "spirit to spirit" communication, uncorrupted by our thoughts and mind.** In what situations do you think this direct line of communication with the Holy Spirit would be valuable?
- **Paul says in 1 Corinthians 14:18-19 that he speaks in tongues more than anyone, but in church he'd rather speak words people understand.** What is the principle Paul is teaching about private versus public use of spiritual gifts?

The Baptism in the Holy Spirit

- **Pastor Andrew distinguished between the Holy Spirit dwelling in believers at salvation versus being baptized/filled with the Holy Spirit as a subsequent experience.** What are your thoughts on this distinction? Have you experienced both?

Key Takeaways

Write down 2-3 key insights from this discussion:

Practical Application

This Week's Challenge:

Choose ONE of the following to practice this week:

Option 1: Pursue Prophecy

- Ask the Holy Spirit each day if there's someone He wants you to encourage. Write down what comes to mind, test it against Scripture, and reach out to that person with an encouraging word.

Option 2: Build Yourself Up

- Set aside 10-15 minutes daily to pray in the Spirit (in tongues if you have that gift). Journal about how this affects your peace and strength.

Option 3: Study the Spirit

- Do a word study on "life" (zoe) and "peace" (eirene/shalom) as suggested in the sermon. Write down what you discover about the quality of life God offers.

Option 4: Seek the Baptism

- If you've never been baptized in the Holy Spirit, set aside time this week to pray and receive by faith.

Prayer Requests & Closing

Group Prayer Focus:

- Pray for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit on each person
- Pray for boldness to operate in spiritual gifts
- Pray for specific needs and requests shared by group members
- Pray for those who want to be baptized in the Holy Spirit

Closing Prayer: *"Lord, thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit. We ask that You would fill us afresh, empower us to minister to others, and help us to walk in love as we exercise the gifts You've given us. In Jesus' name, amen."*

News & Events

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- June 21 - Donuts with Dad
- July 19 - Summer Fun Night at Kingsport Aquatic Center - Registration Open

