

MESSAGE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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This week Senior Pastor Marty Grubbs continued in our series, *Radical: Stop Playing It Safe*, with a message on the Holy Spirit. When Jesus left his disciples he promised to send an advocate to be in us to lead us in truth. The Holy Spirit is the third person of the trinity, equal in every way to the Father and the Son, and as followers of Jesus Christ, we are baptized with the Spirit, he fills us, dwells within us. The Holy Spirit's role in our lives is a constant one. He is the one who guides, nudges, leads, whispers God's Word, gives us power to respond to God, gifts us with different gifts to build the church, and so much more.

SCRIPTURE

ACTS 1:3-8

During the forty days after he suffered and died, he appeared to the apostles from time to time, and he proved to them in many ways that he was actually alive. And he talked to them about the Kingdom of God.

⁴ Once when he was eating with them, he commanded them, "Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before. ⁵ John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

⁶ So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, "Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?"

⁷ He replied, "The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

JOHN 16:5-15

⁵ "But now I am going away to the one who sent me, and not one of you is asking where I am going. ⁶ Instead, you grieve because of what I've told you. ⁷ But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Advocate won't come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you. ⁸ And when he comes, he will convict the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment. ⁹ The world's sin is that it refuses to believe in me. ¹⁰ Righteousness is available because I go to the Father, and you will see me no more. ¹¹ Judgment will come because the ruler of this world has already been judged.

¹² "There is so much more I want to tell you, but you can't bear it now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future. ¹⁴ He will bring me glory by telling you whatever he receives from me. ¹⁵ All that belongs to the Father is mine; this is why I said, 'The Spirit will tell you whatever he receives from me.'

JOHN 14:25-26

²⁵ “These things I have spoken to you while remaining with you. ²⁶ But the Helper, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and remind you of all that I said to you.

JOHN 14:16-17

¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. ¹⁷ He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn’t looking for him and doesn’t recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you.

GALATIANS 5:16-18 MSG

¹⁶⁻¹⁸ My counsel is this: Live freely, animated and motivated by God’s Spirit. Then you won’t feed the compulsions of selfishness. For there is a root of sinful self-interest in us that is at odds with a free spirit, just as the free spirit is incompatible with selfishness. These two ways of life are contrary to each other, so that you cannot live at times one way and at times another way according to how you feel on any given day. Why don’t you choose to be led by the Spirit and so escape the erratic compulsions of a law-dominated existence?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out from Marty’s message?
2. Read Acts 1:3-8 and John 16:5-15. Who does Jesus promise us?
3. If you have access to different translations and versions of the English Bible, look up John 16:7 and note the different ways the Holy Spirit is described. (Here is a link if you have access to a computer or smart phone: <https://biblehub.com/parallel/john/16-7.htm>)
4. Why was it better that Jesus would go away?
5. Read John 14:25-26 and John 14:16-17. What is a primary role of the Holy Spirit?
6. Read Galatians 5:16-18 from The Message paraphrase. How does the Spirit help you in your life?
7. How have you seen the Holy Spirit work in your life?
8. How can we pray for you?

PRAYER

Thank God for sending the Advocate, Counselor, Helper, Comforter—His Holy Spirit to us. Pray that you will surrender to the Spirit and let him have his way in you, to lead you, guide you, bring his Word to mind, and give you power to do the work he asks us to do.