

WIND & FIRE -- WEEK 5: PURSUING THE HOLY SPIRIT

Getting to Know You:

1. Have you ever been to a Pentacostal/charismatic church? What were your impressions about their worship?

Watch:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YTTIhThj4_k

What Are The Extremes Relating To The Holy Spirit?

By oneminuteapologist (2:13)

2. Why do you think there are extreme views of the Holy Spirit?
3. Would you put yourself in the Spirit Phobia group, the Spirit Mania group, or somewhere in the middle?
4. Why do we need to consider the Holy Spirit with both our head and our heart? What are the dangers if we just focus on our heads? What are the dangers if we focus just with our hearts?

Watch:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2F1o3QzpYfM>

Is Speaking In Tongues The Evidence Of The Baptism Of The Holy Spirit? By oneminuteapologist(1:51)

5. According to this video, there is a stronger evidence of the Holy Spirit in our lives than speaking in tongues. What is that stronger evidence or proof that the Holy Spirit is active in your life?

Read: Open your bibles to 1 Corinthians chapters 12, 13, and 14.

6. In 1 Corinthians 12:8-10, Paul gives a list of spiritual gifts. Other Biblical gift lists include 1 Corinthians 12: 28-31, Romans 12:6-8, 1 Peter 4:10-11. None of these lists are exactly the same, though some gifts are mentioned in more than one list. What does that tell us about what spiritual gifts are? Do you think spiritual gifts are limited only to those listed in scripture?

7. In 1 Corinthians 12:12-31, Paul uses the extended metaphor of the church as a body. What does this metaphor teach us about the relative importance of different types of gifts? How should church members see their individual and corporate importance? Is one gift more important than another? Give examples from this passage.

8. 1 Corinthians 13:8-10 talks about the gifts of prophecy, tongues, and knowledge disappearing when perfection comes. When will “the perfection” occur? Do you believe miraculous or sign gifts are still given by God today?

9. Read 1 Corinthians 14:1-5. In chapter 12, Paul seemed to be saying that every gift is important. But now in chapter 14, he says that the gift of prophesying is greater than the gift of tongues. What does he mean? Use these passages to support your answer.

10. When it comes to spiritual gifts, what is Paul’s “bottom-line rule”? Check 1 Corinthians 12:7, 14:5, 14:12, and 14:26.

11. Some modern day “revivals” or “out-pourings of the Spirit” have been marked by ecstatic experiences, shouting in the Spirit, holy laughter, and other excesses of activity. How does 1 Corinthians 14:39-40 speak to that?

12. 1 Corinthians 13 is the Bible’s famous love chapter. What does it tell us that this chapter appears dead center in the middle of a long discussion of spiritual gifts?

Living it Out:

- **Find a practical way to use one of your spiritual gifts this week.**
- **Pray and ask God for both humility and effectiveness while using your gifts.**
- **Read and meditate on this quote...**

“Those who dance are thought mad by those who hear not the music.

That old adage is certainly true of those who walk to the beat of God's drum. When you take your cues from the Holy Spirit, you'll do some things that will make people think you're crazy. So be it. Obey the whisper and see what God does.”

— **Mark Batterson, *Whisper: How to Hear the Voice of God***