



MISUNDERSTANDING THE SPIRIT

Week Five: Mission of the Spirit

TODAY'S VERSES:

John 16:13-15

John 16:7-11

Luke 5:31

Luke 7:47

Romans 1:16

UPCOMING:

Christmas Eve Service:
12/24 @6pm

Dress warm and bring your lawn chairs for an outdoor Christmas Concert. Save room for dessert as Crave Donuts will be here!

End of Year Giving

If you would like to make one last contribution to Element and have it apply to the 2020 calendar year, please do so online by 12/24. You can still mail or drop of checks dated for 2020 through the end of the year.

Find all links at:

<https://linktr.ee/ourelement>

DISCUSSION NOTES & QUESTIONS:

The mission that God sends us on as His people will only be accomplished through the power of the Holy Spirit. In John chapters 15 and 16 Jesus gives His disciples the mission of sharing the Gospel. The message they shared was about a penniless Jewish rabbi who came to change the world. It was told by uneducated fishermen who had no rank in their society...and yet the message changed the world.

Some historians have even asked why in the world anybody listened to these people. Of all the religions at that time Christianity had the one message that was almost designed to go right against the cultural and religious sensibilities of the day. Why did anybody listen? The answer is: the work of the Holy Spirit.

How do you define your relationship with the Holy Spirit?

Do you find the Gospel Message an *impossible* message?

The Bible teaches that Christianity is an inward transforming supernatural reality, something the Spirit of God Himself does, then it becomes a lifestyle.

Read John 16:7-15.

Jesus tells us there is a general work the Spirit does and a particular work.

- The first is a general kind of conviction for all people
- The general conviction then becomes a particular conviction in believer's lives.

What is the general work of the Spirit? Have you experienced that?

How do you know if you are a Christian?

How has the Spirit of God dealt with you in terms of conviction?

How have you struggled or resisted Him?

The Holy Spirit asks us questions deep in our inner being, questions that lead us to understand God's saving grace.

Have you ever had questions asked by God's Spirit that disturbed you?

How have you been convicted of (and how have you responded to):

- Conviction of sin
- Conviction of provision
- Conviction of needing to live for Jesus being under Jesus' authority?

"Does the thought of the Jesus' dying on the cross so thrill you that it gives you the courage to face anything? Can you shake off any fears when you think about it? Does it comfort you no matter what is happening to you?"

With honest reflection, besides Jesus, what is it that makes (or has made) you feel presentable (acceptable) to others and to yourself?

Do you live based on your performance and good deeds or on Jesus' work on the cross on your behalf - achieving what we cannot do ourselves?

How can we better place our faith and trust in Jesus' 'performance' rather than our own?

What might it look like in your life to live as if you're loved by Jesus?

How can we help each other assign authority of our lives over to Jesus?

