

Sermon Notes
Good News Church
“Good News 101 – Basic Essentials of Faith & GNC Vision, Mission, and Values”
Holy Spirit Power
Drue Warner
9-28-25

Overview

1. Why are we here? (Purpose / Vision) – **With so many churches, is our church really necessary?** YES! We are an outpost of the Kingdom of God.
2. What are we all about? (Mission)
3. **What do we believe? (Beliefs)**
4. What do we do? (Behaviors)
5. What is the Good News? (Motivation)

Last Week...

- **Vision** – *“to experience and express LOVE from God and to others.”*
 - **Verse** – The verse that undergirds our vision is, *Galatians 5:6b, “The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.”*
- **Mission** – Our mission is *“to connect with people and build relationships through community workshops, neighborhood-focused ministry, serving local needs, mentoring, and worship.”*

Workshop ideas that were submitted included:

- How to speak enough Spanish to have fun in Cancun for a Week (Kyle Drake)
- BBQ / Smoker for Beginners (Matt Dickey)
- Crocheting (Heather Dickey / Julie Stevens)
- Healthy Living - sleep, nutrition, supplements, exercise (Dave Lee)
- Hair and Make Up for Special Events (Lizzie Campbell)
- How to Play Guitar or Drums (Gary Daniels)
- How to Brew Beer (Jimmy Greer)
- Basic Automotive Repair (Andy Welch / Terry Tincher)
- How to start a small business (Kyle Drake)
- Building a Business, Business Networking, and Marketing Your Business Through Social Media (Rip Pruitt)
- Plumbing leaks and clogs (Andy Welch)
- Firearms safety and training (Andy Welch / Matt Dickey)
- And more!

THE STORY G.R.A.C.E. = God's Riches At Christ's Expense

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich. - 2 Corinthians 8:9

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| ▪ Creation (Goodness) | God made it all. (The work of God) |
| ▪ Fall (Rebellion) | We lost it all. (The work of man) |
| ▪ Redemption (Sacrifice / Ransom) | Jesus did it all. (The work of Jesus) |
| ▪ Salvation (Restoration / Adoption) | We get it all. |
| ▪ Sanctification (Beautification process) | God will grow us all. (The Spirit) |
| ▪ Glorification (Beautification completion) | God will restore it all (to full glory). |

GNC BELIEFS

1. I'm really broken and I need help.
2. Jesus is perfect and He is my help.
3. Jesus is the only way to healing in my relationship with God.
4. **The Holy Spirit is my power to live as a follower of Jesus.**
5. God calls me to submit to His authority and to serve His Church

LAST WEEK... 2. & 3. Jesus is perfect, and He is my only help for healing in my relationship with God.

Preparing Our Hearts...

Iron Man

"For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ. Therefore, we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."
– 2 Corinthians 4:6, 18

- **God saves! God is great! May every breath and every creature and all of life resound and praise to our great God! We become a vessel filled with God's love, power, and glory all for His good purposes in this world.**
- **"It is the Holy Spirit in you who produces a life that imitates God.** All this stems from knowing God – spending time reading and meditating on his word: 'Blessed are those who fear the LORD, who find great delight in his commands' (Psalm 116:1)." - Nicky Gumbel (BiOY, Day 269, 9-26-25)

Fruit of the Spirit One fruit, many manifestations.

*"But the fruit of the Spirit is **love**, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."* - Galatians 5:22-23

- **Fruit of Love** "The way I define love is by using the fruit of the Spirit, which starts with love. I believe that joy is love rejoicing, peace is love at rest, patience is love waiting, kindness is love interacting, goodness is love initiating, faithfulness is love keeping its word, gentleness is love empathising, and self-control is love resisting temptation." - Michael Timmis (BiOY, Day 263)

Belief #4: The Holy Spirit is my power to live as a follower of Jesus.

Too often, once a person has a life-transforming experience with the love of God through Christ, that person sets out on a path of trying to behave a different way than before, because they are now a “Christian.”

The Christian life becomes a big, long “to do” list. There are standards and behaviors that Christians must follow and practice. Then, after a certain amount of time (if differs for all of us), that new, excited Believer becomes exhausted, worn out, and disillusioned, and they either become stagnant and stale in their relationship with Christ or they unplug altogether and go back to where they were before.

This belief that “*The Holy Spirit is my power to live as a follower of Jesus*” is transformative, refreshing, and incredibly impactful in helping us to maintain a vibrant and healthy relationship with Christ and each other, all the while enabling us to grow in grace and love for Christ, and living lives that reflect that of a follower of Jesus.

WIND IN THE SAILS: Being out in a sailboat with your sail raised. The Holy Spirit is the wind in the sails. The wind is the power to move the boat across the water. Without wind, you’re dead in the water.

The Bible tell us that *“the flesh counts for nothing, but the Spirit gives life (John 6:63).”*
And also, *“The Spirit will set you free from sin and death (Romans 8:2).”*

Start by Spirit. Finish by Flesh

Almost always, we’re trying to do everything that we do, in our own strength. We come to faith by the work of the Holy Spirit, but then we turn around and rely on our own work and strength to live as a follower of Christ. And, it doesn’t work that way. **We either fail miserably, get exhausted trying, or succeed outwardly (while failing inwardly... we pretend / fake it).**

- *“Are you so foolish? After beginning by means of the Spirit, are you now trying to finish by means of the flesh?” – Galatians 3:3*

There are a lot of misconceptions about the Holy Spirit... Who is the Holy Spirit, what does the Holy Spirit do, and how do I encounter the Holy Spirit?

MATTHEW’S STORY

I was talking to a friend about his church background and experiences. He told me that when he was a teen (or maybe in his early 20’s), he visited a church that placed a very high emphasis on the Holy Spirit. This church would define themselves as charismatic. My friend said that, after one of the services, they invited anyone who wanted to receive Christ and be anointed with the Holy Spirit, to come forward.

He came forward. He said that there were about 4-5 people in front of him, and as each person stepped forward to be prayed for, the pastor would put his hand on their forehead, and they would fall out on the ground! My friend said that he was a little freaked out about seeing that, but he wasn’t afraid because he was hoping to have that kind of experience and encounter with God, himself.

So, he stepped forward, the pastor put his hand out on his forehead and... nothing happened. The pastor did it again. Still nothing. The pastor did it a third time, and my friend thought, *“Well, I don’t feel anything different, but I think I better just go along with things.”* So, he laid down on the floor and closed his eyes.

After a little while, he turned to the person on the ground next to him, opened his eyes just enough to see, and asked the person next to him, *“How long do you think we should stay down here?”* :)

WHO AND WHAT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

When it comes to the Holy Spirit, there are a lot of perceptions that seem to be sensationalized and inaccurate, as relates to who the Holy Spirit is and what the Holy Spirit does. The truth is that the Holy Spirit does do a lot of things.

The Holy Spirit is named as being our (8 roles):

1. **Counselor (Advocate / Helper / Comforter – “Parakletos”)**

- *“But the Counselor (Advocate), the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.”*
– Jesus (John 14:26)

2. **Illuminator** – The Holy Spirit is the “Spirit of Truth” (John 14:17) meaning that it is the Spirit that leads us into and illuminates the truth of God through the Word of God.

3. **Convicter** – The Holy Spirit convicts us of sin.

- *“When he (the Holy Spirit) comes, he will convict the world of sin.”* – John 16:8
- *“It is the Holy Spirit’s job to convict, the Father’s job to judge, and my job to love.”*
- Billy Graham

4. **Spiritual Gifter** (1 Corinthians 12, Romans 12, Ephesians 4)

- Administration, Apostleship, Craftsmanship, Creative Communication & Music, Discernment, Encouragement, Evangelism, Faith, Giving / Generosity, Helps, Hospitality, Intercession / Prayer, Knowledge, Leadership, Prophecy, Shepherding / Pastor, Teaching, Wisdom

5. **Pray-er** - The Holy Spirit intercedes for us in prayer.

- *“In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God’s people in accordance with the will of God.”* - Romans 8:26-27
- Isn’t that amazing!?! I’ve experienced that in hard times. Many of you may have, as well.

6. **Protector** - The Holy Spirit seals and protects our salvation. We are saved by grace THROUGH FAITH, and that faith is a gift of God.
- *"When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory." - Ephesians 1:13-14*
7. **Perfector** - The Holy Spirit sanctifies us. Not only does the Holy Spirit bring us to and keep us secure "in Christ," the Holy Spirit grows us up as followers of Christ. And, that's a big important truth for us to know!
- *"You were washed, sanctified, and justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of God." - 1 Corinthians 6:11*
 - *"This is the will of God, your sanctification." – 1 Thessalonians 4:3*
 - **Sanctification (def):** God turning our 'should do's' into 'want to's' and our 'want to's' into 'do's,' and wherever we do and don't is completely covered in Christ's done.
8. **Power**
- *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" – Acts 1:8*
 - *"His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness." – 2 Peter 1:3*

Belief #4: The Holy Spirit is my power to live as a follower of Jesus.

Our role in living as a follower of Christ is to let God do what He wants to do. Our role is to turn over the controls to God and to allow the Holy Spirit to do what He wants to do in our lives.

- **Enemies:** Pride, Control **Response:** Surrender, Submit

Practically, what does this look like?

"Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness." - Romans 6:13

PRAYER – *Father, I offer myself to You today. I surrender and submit to You and to Your will. Have Your way in me and through me and use every part of me for Your will and purposes. Amen.*

FINAL THOUGHT

If we surrender and submit ourselves to God's Spirit, then "living as a follower of Christ" will take care of itself, because we will be walking in God's power, not our own (and we'll be wanting to do it)!

And THAT'S Good News!