Revisiting Vision: United in Purpose

Various Texts

The Need for the Spirit

- The Spirit is God's very presence with us
- The Holy Spirit should not be an afterthought when it comes to our Christian walk
  - He is essential to living out our call to be Jesus' disciples
- Jesus asks the Father to send a Helper, the Spirit of Truth, to live with us and in us (John 14:16-20; see Jn. 16:13; Rom. 8:11)

The Work of the Spirit

- The Spirit leads us into truth by reminding us of Jesus' words and giving direction from the Father (John 14:26)
- He convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment (John 16:8-11)
- He applies the work of Christ to our lives & sets us free from bondage to sin (Rom. 8:1-11)
  - Setting us free from our own sinful nature & the Law
    - 'Flesh': Our sinful nature, which relies on ourselves rather than God
- He bears witness within us that we are God's children (Rom. 8:14-16; 1 Jn 3:24)
- He prays for us better than we can, revealing our heart & God's mind (Rom. 8:26-27)
- The Spirit empowers & equips us to be who God made us to be and to be on mission for God's Kingdom (Acts 1:8)

Our Struggle with the Spirit

- We tend to return to walking in the flesh, adopting cheap substitutes for the Spirit
  - License: Freely doing whatever *we* feel like (Gal. 5:13-16, 24)
  - Legalism: Attempting to be righteous on our own, often by living according to a standard of our own making (Gal. 5:4; Col. 2:20-23)

Walking according to the Spirit

- Daily surrender (Luke 9:23)
- Walk humbly with God (Mic. 6:8)
- Learn to listen to His voice (John 10:27)
- Be open to Him to change our plans (Jas. 4:13-15)

So What?

- Are we letting the Spirit lead us both individually & corporately?
- Are we surrendering daily & listening to His voice?

Personal Applications

- Ask the Spirit to lead you this week, seeking opportunities to show God's loving kindness to those around you
- Give the Spirit freedom to change your plans
- Ask Him if there are things He wants you to let go of

Meditation Verse: *Galatians 5:16*