

Chapter Eleven

Witnessing in our Sphere of Influence (a)

Last Revised:8/14/2011

Scripture Memory:

Acts 1:8

8 but you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

- Review:
- The Wheel Illustration
 - II Corinthians 5:17
 - Galatians 2:20
 - II Timothy 3:16
 - Joshua 1:8
 - The Word Hand
 - John 15:7
 - Philippians 4:6 & 7
 - The Prayer Hand
 - Philippians 2:1 & 2
 - Hebrews 10:24&2
 - The Fellowship Tree and the Scales of Community
 - Romans 1:16

Witnessing In Our Sphere of Influence

I. but you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;

A. Receiving the Holy Spirit - The economy of salvation (for further study see *Testing The Spirits* by Rev. John S. Mahon; jmahon@gciweb.org)

1. According to Revelation 22:17
“And the Spirit and the bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost”
 - a. Who is the first witness, the first to give the invitation to come?
 - b. Who is the second witness? (To understand “bride” see II Corinthians 11:2; Revelation 7:6 – 9)
 - c. What role does the Holy Spirit play in God drawing us to Him for our salvation?

RECEIVE, RECEIVING

1. lambano ^2983^ denotes either "to take" or "to receive," (I) literally, (a) without an object, in contrast to asking, e. g., <Matt. 7:8; Mark 11:24>, RV, "have received" (the original has no object); (b) in contrast to giving, e. g., <Matt. 10:8; Acts 20:35>; (c) with objects, whether things, e. g., <Mark 10:30; Luke 18:30>, in the best mss. (some have No. 4); <John 13:30; Acts 9:19>, RV, "took" (KJV, "received"); <1 Cor. 9:25>, RV, "receive" (KJV, "obtain"); or persons, e. g., <John 6:21; 13:20; 16:14>, RV, "take"; <2 John 10>; in <Mark 14:65>, RV, "received (Him with blows of their hands)"; this has been styled a vulgarism; (II), metaphorically, of the word of God, <Matt. 13:20; Mark 4:16>; the sayings of Christ, <John 12:48>; the witness of Christ, <John 3:11>; a hundredfold in this life, and eternal life in the world to come, <Mark 10:30>; mercy, <Heb. 4:16>, RV, "may receive" (KJV, "may obtain"); a person (prosopon, see FACE), <Luke 20:21>, "acceptest," and <Gal. 2:6>, "accepteth," an expression used in the OT either in the sense of being gracious or kind to a person, e. g., <Gen. 19:21; 32:20>, or (negatively) in the sense of being impartial, e. g., <Lev. 19:15; Deut. 10:17>; this latter is the meaning in the two NT passages just mentioned. See ACCEPT, A, No. 4, TAKE, etc.
(from Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)
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2. Now read John 6:63 ***"It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life"*** according to this passage, who is it who gives us life as it pertains to our salvation? Would it then be possible to be saved, to be a Christian, without having the Holy Spirit?
- a. According to Romans 8:15 ***"For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!"***, what did we receive at the time of our adoption by God into the family of God when we were saved?
- b. According to I Corinthians 12:13 ***"For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit"***
- 1.) What occurs when we are saved?
 - 2.) Is the baptism spoken of in this passage a physical baptism of water done by man or a spiritual baptism of the Holy Spirit done by the Holy Spirit Himself?
 - 3.) What percentage of Christians are baptized by the Holy Spirit into the Body of Christ?
- c. The Word of God teaches in II Corinthians 5:17 that when we become Christians we are made "new creatures", according to Titus 3:5 ***"He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit"*** which person of the Trinity is the agency of this spiritual renewal?
- d. How does I Corinthians 6:11 ***"And such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the Spirit"***

of our God” speak to the reality that salvation is inseparable from the Holy Spirit?

e. According to the above passages, would it be possible for one to be saved and yet not have the Holy Spirit?

3. According to Ephesians 1:13 & 14 ***“In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation-- having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory”*** what is the progression of our salvation.

It begins with listening to the message of the truth and what does it culminate in?

According to the passage, can one be saved and not have received the Holy Spirit?

- a. According to Galatians 3:14 ***“in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith,”*** is salvation in Christ separate from the receiving of the Holy Spirit?

As you read each of the following verses, make an observation from the verse as to how it establishes the doctrinal truth that the Holy Spirit.

Galatians 3:2 This is the only thing I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith

Galatians 4:6 And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father

I Thessalonians 4:8 Consequently, he who rejects this is not rejecting man but the God who gives His Holy Spirit to you

- b. In conclusion, why was the Holy Spirit given according to II Corinthians 5:5 “*Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge*”

From this verse, how are the Holy Spirit, Salvation and the Eternal Security of the Believer (the fact that we cannot lose our salvation) inseparably linked?

In the following section a topic is given concerning the Holy Spirit and the act of witnessing, then a passage or passages of scripture are provided. First read the topic, then reflect on your own life in the light of each of the verse(s). Lastly record the central teaching of the passage as it pertains to not being ashamed of the gospel.

- B. Witnessing Then Is A Package Deal: We offer not just Jesus but with Jesus, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit in all their fullness.

Read

Reflect

Record...

1. ACT 2:38 And Peter said to them, "Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
2. MAT 28:19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,
3. COL 2:9 For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form,

C. Synonymous With and Inseparable From Salvation

1. As taught by Jesus

Read
Reflect
Record...

- a. JOH 3:5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.
- b. JOH 3:6 "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
- c. JOH 3:8 "The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit."
- d. ACT 1:8 but you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth. "

2. As evidenced by the benefits of salvation

Read
Reflect
Record...

- a. ROM 5:5 and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.
- b. ROM 8:14 For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.
- c. ROM 8:16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,
- d. 1CO 2:12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things freely given to us by God,
- e. GAL 5:5 For we through the Spirit, by faith, are waiting for the hope of righteousness.
- f. EPH 2:18 for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father.

3. Salvation is impossible without the Holy Spirit

Read

Reflect

Record...

- a. ROM 8:9 However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.
- b. ROM 8:11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you
- c. 1CO 3:16 ¶ Do you not know that you are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?
- d. EPH 2:22 in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.
- e. 1JO 3:24 And the one who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And we know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

II. The manifestation of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer

One of the tendencies when reading Historical Revelations in the Word of God, such as the Book of Acts, is that unusual events tend to stand out to us. Thus in reading through the Book of Acts if there occurs numerous references to personal evangelism and only a few to speaking in tongues, we tend to remember these, while the ones pertaining to evangelism are often skimmed over. Again if we read 50 references to Christian fellowship and one reference to a man being healed by Paul's shadow falling upon him, this miracle tends to be embedded in our mind, while the ho hum passages on fellowship, common to both our reading and experience do not grip us in the same way.

This is a common phenomenon as it pertains to the Books of Acts. After a casual reading the Christian often goes away with the impression that the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit has to do with tongues, miracles and other exotic spiritual manifestations. A careful study therefore is required so that the disciple is able to distinguish between impression and spiritual facts.

The following chart is an attempt by the author to list every historical event in the Book of Acts as it pertains to the Work and Ministry of the Holy Spirit. Following the chart, each passage is provided for you to save you time in turning back and forth in your Bible. Many passages are reduced to the key verses to save space. Feel free to read the entire passages from your own Bible.

An important principle of Biblical interpretation is that we always interpret Historical Revelation with Doctrinal Revelation. The reason we know that David's relationship with Bathsheba was sin is because of the Doctrinal teaching in the law – "You shall not commit adultery".

What then is the doctrinal teaching of the manifestation of the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer in Acts 1:8?

What should we expect to find as we read the Historical Revelation of the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit in the book of Acts?

In the Bible Moses parted the Red Sea, Elijah parted the Jordan, both Jesus and Peter walked on water, but are these doctrinal commands in the Scripture?

What is the danger of universalizing the specific experiences of men and women in the Scripture when they are not commanded in Doctrinal teachings?

What is the danger of universalizing the miracles recorded in the Historical Revelation of the Acts of the Apostles in the Book of Acts when they are not commanded in Doctrinal Revelation?

On the next page is a chart: Read the passage from the book of Acts (provided in the pages following the chart) and then place a check by each event which occurred as a direct manifestation of the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

<u>Passage</u>	<u>Holy Spirit</u>	<u>Evangelism</u>	<u>Healing</u>	<u>Tongues</u>	<u>Prosperity</u>	<u>Vision</u>
1: 8	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2: 4, 11, 21	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2:33,37-40	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
4: 8, 12, 13	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
4: 31	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5:29-32	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
6:3 - 10	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
7:51-56	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
8:12 – 17	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
9:17	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
10:19,43,44,46	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
11:23, 24	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
13:2-5	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
13:9 – 12	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
13:52 – 14:1	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
19:2-6	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
19:21;20:22-24	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

In the book of Acts as it pertains to the giving, filling and ministry of the Holy Spirit under each term below write either **Universal, Majority, Rare** or **None** as it pertains to the manifestations of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers...

Evangelism **Healing** **Tongues** **Prosperity** **Vision**

What is the Universal manifestation in the book of Acts of the Work and Ministry of the Holy Spirit?

Is this what is commonly represented in the church today? Why do you think people desire one of the other manifestations listed?

Acts 1:8

8 but you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

Acts 2:4,11,21

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

11 Cretans and Arabs-- we hear them in our own tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God."

21 'And it shall be, that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

Acts 2:33, 37-40

33 "Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear.

37 Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"

38 And Peter said to them, "Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

39 "For the promise is for you and your children, and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God shall call to Himself."

40 And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation!"

Acts 4:8

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers and elders of the people, Acts 4:12-13

12 "And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved."

13 Now as they observed the confidence of Peter and John, and understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were marveling, and began to recognize them as having been with Jesus.

Acts 4:31

31 And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak the word of God with boldness.

Acts 5:29-32

29 But Peter and the apostles answered and said, "We must obey God rather than men.

30 "The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you had put to death by hanging Him on a cross.

31 "He is the one whom God exalted to His right hand as a Prince and a Savior, to grant repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.

32 "And we are witnesses of these things; and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him."

Acts 6:3-10; 8:5

3 "But select from among you, brethren, seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task.

4 "But we will devote ourselves to prayer, and to the ministry of the word."

5 And the statement found approval with the whole congregation; and they chose **Stephen**, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and **Philip**, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch.

6 And these they brought before the apostles; and after praying, they laid their hands on them.

7 And the word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith.

8 And Stephen, full of grace and power, was performing great wonders and signs among the people.

9 But some men from what was called the Synagogue of the Freedmen, including both Cyrenians and Alexandrians, and some from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and argued with Stephen.

10 And yet they were unable to cope with the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking.

Acts 8:5

5 And Philip went down to the city of Samaria and began proclaiming Christ to them.

Acts 7:51-56

51 "You men who are stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears are always resisting the Holy Spirit; you are doing just as your fathers did.

52 "Which one of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who had previously announced the coming of the Righteous One, whose betrayers and murderers you have now become;

53 you who received the law as ordained by angels, and yet did not keep it."

54 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the quick, and they began gnashing their teeth at him.

55 But being full of the Holy Spirit, he gazed intently into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God;

56 and he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened up and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."

Acts 8:12-17

12 But when they believed Philip preaching the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were being baptized, men and women alike.

13 And even Simon himself believed; and after being baptized, he continued on with Philip; and as he observed signs and great miracles taking place, he was constantly amazed.

14 Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent them Peter and John,

15 who came down and prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit.

16 For He had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

17 Then they began laying their hands on them, and they were receiving the Holy Spirit.

Acts 9:17

17 And Ananias departed and entered the house, and after laying his hands on him said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road by which you were coming, has sent me so that you may regain your sight, and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

Acts 9:20

20 and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

Acts 10:19,43-48

19 And while Peter was reflecting on the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are looking for you.

43 "Of Him all the prophets bear witness that through His name everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins."

44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message.

45 And all the circumcised believers who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out upon the Gentiles also.

46 For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God. Then Peter answered,

47 "Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we did, can he?"

48 And he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay on for a few days.

Acts 11:23-24

23 Then when he had come and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord;

24 for he was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And considerable numbers were brought to the Lord.

Acts 13:2-5

2 And while they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

3 Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

4 So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia and from there they sailed to Cyprus.

5 And when they reached Salamis, they began to proclaim the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews; and they also had John as their helper.

Acts 13:9-12

9 But Saul, who was also known as Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, fixed his gaze upon him,
 10 and said, "You who are full of all deceit and fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease to make crooked the straight ways of the Lord?
 11 "And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and not see the sun for a time." And immediately a mist and a darkness fell upon him, and he went about seeking those who would lead him by the hand.
 12 Then the proconsul believed when he saw what had happened, being amazed at the teaching of the Lord.

Acts 13:52-14:1

52 And the disciples were continually filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

CHAPTER 14

1 And it came about that in Iconium they entered the synagogue of the Jews together, and spoke in such a manner that a great multitude believed, both of Jews and of Greeks.

Acts 19:2-6

2 and he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said to him, "No, we have not even heard whether there is a Holy Spirit."

3 And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" And they said, "Into John's baptism."

4 And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in Him who was coming after him, that is, in Jesus."

5 And when they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying.

Acts 19:21;20:22-24

21 Now after these things were finished, Paul purposed in the spirit to go to Jerusalem after he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, saying, "After I have been there, I must also see Rome."

22 "And now, behold, bound in spirit, I am on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there,

23 except that the Holy Spirit solemnly testifies to me in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions await me.

24 "But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, in order that I may finish my course, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God.

III. and you shall be My witnesses

In the following section a topic is given concerning the command to be a witness, then a passage or passages of scripture are provided. First read the topic, then reflect on your own life in the light of each of the verse(s). Lastly record the central teaching of the passage as it pertains to not being ashamed of the gospel.

A. Because of the command of the Lord

Read
Reflect
Record...

Matt 4:19

19 And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Matt 28:18-19

18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

Mark 16:15

15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.

Luke 11:23

23 "He who is not with Me is against Me; and he who does not gather with Me, scatters.

Acts 4:12-13

12 "And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved."

13 Now as they observed the confidence of

Strongs: WITNESS
3144 martus (mar'-toos);
of uncertain affinity; a
witness (literally [judicially]
or figuratively [genitive
case]); by analogy, a
"martyr":
KJV-- martyr, record,
witness.

WITNESS (NOUN AND
VERB)

1. martus or martur
^3144^ (whence Eng.,
"martyr," one who bears
"witness" by his death)
denotes "one who can or does
aver what he has seen or
heard or knows"; it is used (a)
of God, <Rom. 1:9; 2 Cor.
1:23; Phil. 1:8; 1 Thes.
2:5,10> (2nd part); (b) of
Christ, <Rev. 1:5; 3:14>; (c)
of those who "witness" for
Christ by their death, <Acts
22:20; Rev. 2:13; Rev. 17:6>;
(d) of the interpreters of
God's counsels, yet to
"witness" in Jerusalem in the
times of the Antichrist, <Rev.
11:3>; (e) in a forensic sense,
<Matt. 18:16; 26:65; Mark
14:63; Acts 6:13; 7:58; 2
Cor. 13:1; 1 Tim. 5:19; Heb.
10:28>; (f) in a historical
sense, <Luke 11:48; 24:48;
Acts 1:8,22; 2:32; 3:15; 5:32;
10:39,41; 13:31; 22:15;
26:16; 1 Thes. 2:10> (1st
part); <1 Tim. 6:12; 2 Tim.
2:2; Heb. 12:1>, "(a cloud) of
witnesses," here of those
mentioned in <ch. 11>, those
whose lives and actions
testified to the worth and
effect of faith, and whose
faith received "witness" in
Scripture; <1 Pet. 5:1>.#
(from Vine's Expository
Dictionary of Biblical
Words)
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Nelson Publishers)

Peter and John, and understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were marveling, and began to recognize them as having been with Jesus.

B. Because of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit

Read
Reflect
Record...

John 15:26-27

26 "When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness of Me,

27 and you will bear witness also, because you have been with Me from the beginning.

Acts 1:8

8 but you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

Acts 6:3

3 "But select from among you, brethren, seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task.

Acts 6:5

5 And the statement found approval with the whole congregation; and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch.

Acts 8:5

5 And Philip went down to the city of Samaria and began proclaiming Christ to them.

C. Because of the changed heart of the believer

Read
Reflect
Record...

Luke 8:39-40

39 "Return to your house and describe what great things God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him.

40 And as Jesus returned, the multitude welcomed Him, for they had all been waiting for Him.

Acts 4:18-20

18 And when they had summoned them, they commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.

19 But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to give heed to you rather than to God, you be the judge;

20 for we cannot stop speaking what we have seen and heard."

I Jn 1:2-3

2 and the life was manifested, and we have seen and bear witness and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us--

3 what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, that you also may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.

D. The example and testimony of the early church

Read

Reflect

Record...

Acts 1:8

8 but you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

Acts 2:11

11 Cretans and Arabs-- we hear them in our own tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God."

Acts 2:32-38

32 "This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses.

33 "Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear.

34 "For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says: 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand,

35 Until I make Thine enemies a footstool for Thy feet.'"

36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ-- this Jesus whom you crucified."

37 Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"

38 And Peter said to them, "Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 3:19-20

19 "Repent therefore and return, that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord;

20 and that He may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you,

Acts 4:19-20

19 But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to give heed to you rather than to God, you be the judge;

20 for we cannot stop speaking what we have seen and heard."

Acts 4:31

31 And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak the word of God with boldness.

Acts 5:30-32

30 "The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you had put to death by hanging Him on a cross.

31 "He is the one whom God exalted to His right hand as a Prince and a Savior, to grant repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.

32 "And we are witnesses of these things; and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him."

Acts 6:3-7

3 "But select from among you, brethren, seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task.

4 "But we will devote ourselves to prayer, and to the ministry of the word."

5 And the statement found approval with the whole congregation; and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch.

6 And these they brought before the apostles; and after praying, they laid their hands on them.

7 And the word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith.

Acts 8:5-6

5 And Philip went down to the city of Samaria and began proclaiming Christ to them.

6 And the multitudes with one accord were giving attention to what was said by Philip, as they heard and saw the signs which he was

Acts 10:39-42

39 "And we are witnesses of all the things He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem. And they also put Him to death by hanging Him on a cross.

40 "God raised Him up on the third day, and granted that He should become visible,

41 not to all the people, but to witnesses who were chosen beforehand by God, that is, to us, who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead.

42 "And He ordered us to preach to the people, and solemnly to testify that this is the One who has been appointed by God as Judge of the living and the dead.

Acts 10:43

43 "Of Him all the prophets bear witness that through His name everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins."

Acts 11:23-24

23 Then when he had come and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord;

24 for he was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And considerable numbers were brought to the Lord.

Acts 22:15

15 'For you will be a witness for Him to all men of what you have seen and heard.

Acts 23:11

11 But on the night immediately following, the Lord stood at his side and said, "Take courage; for as you have solemnly witnessed to My cause at Jerusalem, so you must witness at Rome also."

Acts 26:16

16 'But arise, and stand on your feet; for this purpose I have appeared to you, to appoint you a minister and a witness not only to the things which you have seen, but also to the things in which I will appear to you;

IV. Summarize your study on the universal manifestation of the power of the Holy Spirit in the believer being his constant witness of his personal relationship with Christ.

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Witnessing In Our Sphere of Influence

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 1:8

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 2:32

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 3:14 - 16

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Witnessing In Our Sphere of Influence

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 5:32

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 10:39 - 43

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Hebrews 1:1 - 3

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?