

"The Three 'R's' of a Supernatural Life"

A. INTRODUCTION:

Acts 1:1-8

B. GOING BACK TO THE BASICS:

Recognizing

To live the Supernatural Life we need to Recognize what's important. Failure to recognize was devastating to Israel

Luke 19:43-44 "For the days will come upon you when your enemies will throw up a barricade against you, and surround you and hem you in on every side, and they will level you to the ground and your children within you, and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation."

A few weeks ago, Kris Curtis had this word for this church:

I believe that the Lord would remind the church to be filled with the Holy Spirit in order to have God's boundless love and power in our hearts, and the only way to do this is to pray and ask for it. This was never meant to be an occasional thing, but a part of our daily communing with God. Because a person or church filled with the Holy Spirit can and will break chains of bondage and win spiritual battles through prayer.

The Lord is telling us to recognize what He recognizes. Each of us needs to be filled with the power of God's Spirit on a continual basis to live the Supernatural life. This is not optional with God. It is the only way to live the Supernatural life. This is not a one time event but an ongoing life style.

*What are your most pressing needs? ...Financial, relational, health, educational, where to live...
or "I need the POWER Holy Spirit in a greater way and in every way."*

There is a distinction between the INDWELLING and the IN FILLING of the Spirit:

Indwelling:

Every believer has the indwelling presence of God's Spirit:

"...the Holy Spirit who has been given to us...But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him...For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God...The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God" Rom. 5:5; 8:9, 14,16

BUT We NEED more! Do you believe this? Jesus' PRESENCE is not SYNONYMOUS with His POWER. In the Book of Acts, God's PRESENCE IN POWER was the difference. Would there have been a Book of Acts without the POWER of the Spirit?

Do our lives look like the book of Acts?

*Where are the miracles, the passion, the commitment;
Where is the power in prayer and in the study of God's Word;*

*Where is the boldness, the praise;
Where is the strength in opposition and suffering;
Where is the supernatural love and sacrifice?*

*Is my life a compelling revelation of God or is it too much like the rest of the world?
Is my life a challenge to unrighteousness?
Would others want to know my God?*

Do we need the power of God? Will God be satisfied with our lives? We in danger of taking the Holy Spirit's presence for granted:

*How often do we purposefully ask for God's power?
How often do we recognize our need for the Spirit's presence?
If the Holy Spirit were to leave us, would we even notice?*

In Filling:

Have we recognized that WE NEED TO BE FILLED WITH God's POWER?

Jesus insisted that we be filled with His power:

Luke 24:49 *"Stay in the city until you are clothed with POWER from on high."*

Acts 1:4,8 *"Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," He said, "you heard of from Me...but you will 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."*

Being filled with the Power of the Spirit is not OPTIONAL. Paul COMMANDS the church to be filled with the Spirit: **Eph. 5:18**

*We need His power for EVERY detail and at EVERY moment;
We need His power for the fruit of the Spirit;
We need His power to minister the gospel to others and to ourselves;
We need His power to evangelize;
We need His power for prayer and the study of His Word*

Is there any area of our lives where we do not need God's POWER?

Repenting

What are we to do?

Acts 2:37-38a *"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?' Peter said to them, 'Repent...'"*

Repent: "to change one's mind" [Thayer]

What should we do?

1. Confess our need and our complacency.
2. Ask God to fill you with His Spirit

Luke 11: 9, 10, 13 *"So I say to you, keep asking, and it will be given to you; keep seeking, and you will find; keep knocking, and it will be opened to you. 10 "For everyone who asks, receives; and he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, it will be opened 13 "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?"*

Ask with faith, expecting to receive. Ask with persistence-prevailing prayer.

Receiving

What Receiving looks like:

Acts. 2: 1-6

Acts 19:6 *"And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying."*

It is God's expressed will to fill us with the power of His Spirit. When you ask, believe that God will answer you. When He does you will know it.

If not keep on praying today, tomorrow, and every day, passionately and consistently, because your spiritual health and significance depends on it. Don't give up until you receive.

For those who have been filled with the Spirit, as you pray believe that God is re-filling you and acknowledge that by faith.

