BASIC.HOLY SPIRIT
REFLECTION GUIDE
And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth.

John 14:16-17

Have you received the Holy Spirit?
How do you know?

“There are so many people on the earth who have such a small view of God that they don’t see any need to fear Him. Then you’ve got millions of people who claim to be Christians, or followers of Jesus Christ, and yet their lives look nothing like His, and they don’t seem to be concerned about it.”

Do you have a limited view of God?
Does your life look like Jesus’ life?
Does your answer concern you?

“But maybe the biggest concern with the church today is this apparent lack of the Holy Spirit’s power.”

What are your biggest concerns with the church today?
Do you even think about the Holy Spirit when you think of what is wrong with the church today?

“When you read the New Testament, you see that the Holy Spirit was supposed to change everything.”

Has the Holy Spirit changed everything in your life?
Has the Holy Spirit changed everything for your church?
How has the Holy Spirit impacted your life … your church?

“Nowadays, can you really tell the difference by the actions of a person who calls himself a Christian versus the actions of someone who denies the existence of Jesus? And do you really see this supernatural power at work when the believers gather together for what we call church?”

Does your life look different from the life of a person who doesn’t know Jesus?
Would you consider your gatherings with other Christians to be supernatural?

“And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. … But the Counselor, 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.”

John 14:16-17, 26
“When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me.”

*John 15:26*

“But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.”

*John 16:7*

“But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.”

*John 16:13-15*

He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

*Acts 1:7-8*

Suppose Jesus appeared to you and said these words to you.

How would you react?

Are His words intended for you?

Are you His witness?

Does the Holy Spirit give you power to be His witness to the world?

Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

*Acts 2:2-4*

Have you experienced the Holy Spirit as the disciples did at Pentecost?

Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. Utterly amazed, they asked: “Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language?”

*Acts 2:5-8*

When was the last time you saw non-Christians amazed at a gathering of Christians?

Have you ever witnessed amazement and bewilderment among nonbelievers at your gatherings?

What has been your experience?
They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Acts 2:42-47

Has the Holy Spirit created a supernatural unity in your church?

Acts 3:9-10

Have you ever witnessed a miracle that simply can’t be explained apart from the Holy Spirit?

How did that impact you?

Do you want to see the Holy Spirit move in miraculous ways?

Acts 4:32-35

Does the way you and your church live and love one another attract others to Christ?

“Isn’t it the same Holy Spirit that’s supposed to be available to us today? Why is it so different? I heard one person say the church nowadays is neither super nor natural.”

Have you witnessed the power of the Holy Spirit in a church you have attended?

What was different about that church? Are we missing something when it comes to the Holy Spirit?

Does the ministry of the Holy Spirit seem like a mystery to you?

Do you want to discover what life is supposed to be like when the Holy Spirit is leading you?

Acts 4:13

When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.

Acts 4:13

When was the last time someone was astonished at your courage in proclaiming Christ?

Has anyone ever been?
“Why is it that in the church so many people are weak or defeated, or we get so insecure because we look at ourselves rather than God? It doesn’t make sense.”

Do you find yourself looking at yourself rather than God?
Where does that lead you?
Where does that leave you?

“I feel like that’s what happens in the church. We believe in this almighty, just intense Being, all-powerful, and then He puts this Spirit of power in us, and our response is, ‘Hi, welcome to church, here’s your bulletin. We’ll get you out in an hour. Come back next week.’ I mean, really? Is that all God intended for us?”

Does your life reflect the life of your Father in heaven?
Does your life demonstrate the power of the Holy Spirit God has given you?
Have you given up on making a difference because you’ve been trying so hard to do it on your own?

“**When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.**”

**John 16:8-11**

Have you been trying to do the Holy Spirit’s job?

“And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”

**Matthew 16:18**

How would the gates of Hades (Hell) stand up against your church?
Why?
Do you see the church as a powerful body that can crush the gates of Hell?
Do you ever feel despair at your inability to do something you know God wants you to do?
Are you doing it in your own power?

“There was going to be a supernatural element to it, where God Himself would create a unity amidst them. They would be so tight, they would be so bonded together that the world would look and go, ‘Wow, how did they all join together like that?’ Because typically a bunch of people can’t get in a room and get along. But there would be this harmony, why, because they were all following the same Spirit. See, that’s what the Holy Spirit wants to create within our gatherings.”

Does the world stand back and say “Wow” when they see your church?
Is there a unity in your church that can only be attributed to the Holy Spirit?

“Once you’re on it, it’s got a power of its own. You don’t manipulate it. You just go along for the ride. And you multiply that a thousand times, and that’s what you see in the book of Acts. It’s like this wave of God’s power, and everyone’s just jumping on.”
Have you ever ridden the wave of God’s power as the Holy Spirit moves through His people?
What was it like?
Do you find yourself standing back in amazement as you see what God is doing around you?

“Don’t you see ... this is what God wants today. It wasn’t for two thousand years ago only. It’s for right now. The Holy Spirit wants to lead us. He wants to lead us into something deeper, but do you believe it? Honestly, do you even think it’s possible today?”

Do you find yourself believing the early church had a power available to them through the Holy Spirit that simply isn’t available to the church today?
Why?

“Do you really believe the same Holy Spirit exists today and wants to do that in your life, wants to do it in my life, and He wants to create this gathering today, a gathering where He works so powerfully that we would actually experience that power, and recognize there’s a powerful God up there and we would just naturally fear Him?”

Stop.
Pray that the Holy Spirit would give you a healthy fear of God.

“Doesn’t your soul long for this gathering of people where the Holy Spirit leads us into the ways of Jesus, and as we follow the ways of Jesus, we find new life and a new excitement to our existence?”

Stop.
Pray that the Holy Spirit would lead you into the new life that comes from following Jesus.

“Doesn’t everything in you scream, wanting to be a part of something supernatural, that you know the Holy Spirit’s leading, and He creates this unity amidst this body of followers of Jesus?”

Stop.
Pray that the Holy Spirit would create a supernatural unity in your church that the world can’t help but stand back and watch in amazement.

“What would the church look like today if we really stopped taking control of it and let the Holy Spirit lead?”

Stop.
Pray that the Holy Spirit would lead your church to become all that He intends it to be.

“I believe this is what we all want … and I believe this is exactly what the world needs to see.”

How would the world react to the church if it truly lets go and lets the Holy Spirit lead?
Is this something you want to be a part of?
What will you do about it?
After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. 
And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly. 

Acts 4:31

But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 

Acts 7:55

Then the church throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria enjoyed a time of peace. It was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord. 

Acts 9:31

“ you know what has happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.” 

Acts 10:37-38

When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. 

Acts 19:6

For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. 

Romans 8:13-14

Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines. 

1 Corinthians 12:7-11

For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. 

2 Timothy 1:6-7

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other. 

Galatians 5:22-26