

## **GNCOMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY GUIDE**

SERMON SERIES: "GIFTED"

SERMON TITLE: "THE GIFT"

DATE PREACHED: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9TH 2018

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◆ **Facilitator NOTE:** AS YOU PREPARE AHEAD OF TIME, LOOK THROUGH THE PASSAGES/QUESTIONS BELOW TO HELP YOURSELF PRIORITIZE THE THINGS THAT YOU DEFINITELY WANT TO COVER WITH THE TIME YOU HAVE AVAILABLE. YOU LIKELY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO COVER ALL THIS MATERIAL. TRY TO KEEP THE STUDIES TO AROUND AN HOUR FOR THE KIDS/KIDS-HELPERS SAKE.

### •✿• SERMON IN A SENTENCE:

"The gift of the Holy Spirit empowers ordinary people to do extraordinary things."





*(use the questions you want to use, ignore the ones you don't want to use, and add any that you think would be good)*

### **WARM UP QUESTIONS:**


- ✚ What do you think causes Christians to have a narrow view of the gifts that God has given them? (Common thought and expression: "I don't have any gifts that God can or wants to use.")
  - ✚ How can we broaden our view of God's gifts in our lives?
- ✚ If you only could take one breath per second, how productive would your life be?
  - ✚ Why aren't we as reliant on the gift of the Holy Spirit in our lives as we are on the gift of breathing? What in our head and heart tell us that they are different?
- ✚ When you hear the name "Holy Spirit", what historically has come to your mind? Was there any stigma or misperceptions?
  - ✚ Do you think many Christians are intimidated or even scared by the concept of the Holy Spirit?
- ✚ Can you look around the room and name out-loud any God-given gifts that you see in their lives?
  - ✚ How do you see the Holy Spirit using them?





## DIVE IN DEEPER:

**Romans 8:9** — “**9b** If anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ.”

-  Are there some Christians who have the Holy Spirit, and some Christians who don't have the Holy Spirit?
-  Is the Holy Spirit optional?
-  Can the Holy Spirit be underutilized? (as an analogy, think: taking less breaths)
-  Can you say that you are as reliant on the Holy Spirit as you are on oxygen?


**Acts 1:1-11** — “**1** In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach **2** until the day He was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the **HOLY SPIRIT** to the apostles He had chosen. **3** After His suffering, He presented Himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that He was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. **4** On one occasion, while He was eating with them, He gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but **WAIT FOR THE GIFT MY FATHER PROMISED**, which you have heard me speak about. **5** For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” **6** Then they gathered around Him and asked Him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” **7** He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by His own authority. **8** 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.” **9** After He said this, He was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid Him from their sight. **10** They were looking intently up into the sky as He was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. **11** “Men of Galilee,” they said, “**WHY** do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen Him go into heaven.”

-  What can we learn from Jesus' command in verse 4 concerning the importance of the Holy Spirit for His followers?

-  What do you think Jesus meant in verse 8 when He says that we will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on us? What should that mean for our lives today?
-  How does the one promised gift of the Holy Spirit help unlock all the other specific God-given gifts in a person's life?
-  Jesus calls His followers His "witnesses" (v. 8). Do you live your life in such a way that you are clearly a witness to others about who Jesus is? Why or why not?
-  Is the Holy Spirit a "something" or a "someone"? Why is that significant?


### **TAKE THIS HOME WITH YOU "TAKEAWAY":**

- ☀ How will you begin living as dependent on the Holy Spirit as you are on oxygen?
- ☀ If you knew Jesus were coming back a week from today, how would you live your life differently?

 Close in prayer.

### **MATCHING THEME IDEAS FOR THE KID'S LESSON:**


- I'd encourage a worship time if possible (youtube works great {Lifetree Kids}).
- Ask them if they have any things in their life that they need Jesus' help with, and then pray for the requests of the group.
- And feel free to ask any of the kids if they'd like to say a prayer for the group.

 Read **Romans 8:9** — "9b If anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ."

### **Ask the kiddos questions like:**

- What is the Holy Spirit?
- Is God still with us today?
- What would your life look like if God lived inside of you?

### **Activity Ideas:**

-  See who can hold their breath the longest, and then use that as the spring board for a conversation about our need for Jesus (His Holy Spirit) in our lives just as much as we need breath in our lungs.