

Remaining In The Spirit

What happened?

Acts 2:42-3:12

Pneuma: SPIRIT, WIND, BREATH

Ruach: SPIRIT, WIND, BREATH

Warning: Sometimes the Bible is telling us
what **HAPPENED**, not what **TO DO**.

Learning from Peter and John:

The Spirit was using people who were:

- ✓ Doing the **RIGHT** things at the **RIGHT** time.
Acts 3:1
- ✓ Willing to be **INTERRUPTED**.
Acts 3:4
- ✓ Paying **ATTENTION** to the **NEEDS** of others.
Acts 3:4
- ✓ Willing to give what **THEY HAD**.
Acts 3:6
- ✓ Willing to promote **GOD**, not **THEMSELVES**.
Acts 3:6-12

Learning from the beggar:

Acts 3:3-5

Instead of asking God to bless **OUR AGENDA**,
let's start praying for **HIS AGENDA**.

Life Group Study Questions

For the week of March 1, 2020

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time, caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

MY STORY

1. Go back through the "Learning from Peter and John" section of your notes and rank yourself on the five things below from 1 (needs lots of work) to 5 (doing great).

- Doing the right things at the right time
- Willing to be interrupted
- Paying attention to the needs of others
- Willing to give what they had
- Willing to promote God, not themselves

2. When it comes to making time for others, most of us can think of a few places where we do this well and a few places that need work. Can you think of any people, groups or situations where it's hard for you to make time for them?

3. Sometimes we need someone to make a special stop or create time for us. Can you think of any people who have given you their time in a way that really impacted you?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. [Mark 5](#) gives a good example of a time when Jesus was interrupted several times. As you read through the story, jot down at least five observations from the passage and then answer the following questions:

What interruptions did Jesus experience?

Can you think of any legitimate reasons others in the story could have given for why Jesus shouldn't have stopped for the interruptions?

How might Jesus' response to the interruptions in the story help us do a better job of responding to people in need today?

What are some of the reasons/excuses/justifications you tend to give for not having enough time for people?

2. While it's true as followers of Jesus we are to help people, how we do this is incredibly important. In John 1:14-17 we read how Jesus came to us with both grace and truth, and we see Him carry this out in many of His interactions. Can you think of any examples in the Bible where Jesus' grace for people set up opportunities to share truth?

John 1:14-17 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

¹⁵(John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, "This is the one I spoke about when I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Why do you think it's important to balance the tension between both grace and truth when helping others?

What could be dangers of sharing truth with people without grace? Dangers of grace without truth?

In responding to others in need, where do you fall on a continuum between grace on one side and truth on the other?

3. In the examples given in the sermon and in the My Story question #1 of the homework, we see just how important "being willing" is in helping others. How do the following verses expand on what it means for the Spirit to work through our willingness?

1 Peter 5:2-4 New International Version (NIV)

²Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; ³not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. ⁴And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

2 Corinthians 9:6-11 New International Version (NIV)

Generosity Encouraged

⁶Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. ⁹As it is written:

"They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor;
their righteousness endures forever."^[a]

¹⁰Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

In light of the sermon and homework, when it comes to increasing your “willingness” to help those around you, what comes to mind?

TAKING IT HOME

As you think through your family, friends, neighbors, coworkers or those in your community, are there any you want to be more intentional about helping in the next few weeks?

PRAYER REQUESTS

→

→

→



COMMUNITY SERVICE IMPACT

Community Service is a ministry of North Coast Church dedicated to being the hands and feet of Jesus and showing God’s love in tangible ways through service to the community. There are many options for you to serve. For ideas, check out NorthCoastCommunityService.org