



Kingdom Family *focus*

410-778-4208 ~ WWW.NEWFREEDOMCHURCH.CHURCH ~ MAY 2021
DAVID PATTERSON, SENIOR PASTOR

Church Events

Sunday Morning Services

worship - 10 am
sermon - 1030 am

Sunday Evening Services

May 9th & May 23rd - 6:30 pm

Youth Group Meeting

May 1st, May 8th & May 22nd – 6pm-8pm

Yard Sale Giveaway

May 8th – 7 am -Noon
Caleb & Alyssa's House

Mother's Day Luncheon

May 16th – After Services

Men's Meeting

May 11th & May 25th - 7 PM Doug Cornelius' house

"Celebrating the Godly Woman"

Women's Potluck

May 26th – 6 pm
Karen Cole's House

Who Is The Holy Spirit To You?

By: Jess Graff

This is the month that we celebrate the Pentecost. The Pentecost is the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples of Jesus after His Ascension, held on the seventh Sunday after Easter. The Holy Spirit is often overlooked and misunderstood in many denominations and seems to be left out of many evangelical forums and over emphasized in many charismatic forums. He is understood to be the supernatural and mysterious workings of God. When considering the Pentecost, I will skip over the liturgical terms and obvious scripture references about the third Person of the Trinity, moving away from a commonplace and/or confusing religious portrayal of Him to discuss what relationship with Him looks like. After all, He is a person, not a term nor an idea. He is the still, small voice of prophecy and the unction of godly truth and wisdom. He is the power by Whom miracles manifest. He is One with the Father and Son as an equal person of the triune God. The Holy Spirit is a noun and verb in one. He is God in action. Jesus is the vine. The Father is the vinedresser. The Holy Spirit is the producer.

He was at work in heaven before “time” and “space” were created. It was through Him that time and space came into existence as He hovered over the waters before the Creation. He is woven throughout the old and new testaments in a number of different ways. But that is not the picture of the Holy Spirit that I would like to paint for the purpose of this writing. I would like to talk about a friend; the one with Whom you may have a close relationship and the one with Whom you may rely on and seek for counsel – our 411, our help desk, our whisperer of truth, our comforter, and our advocate. He is the power behind our gifts and the one who is alive inside of us.

When I was filled with the Holy Spirit, I did not feel a tongue of fiery flames on my head. I’m sure some people feel that. I know the book of Acts described the occurrence as such. For me, the flow of a “different language” that poured out of me in that moment was like everything that I had ever wanted to say to God but didn’t know how to. It flowed in such a way that a giant weight lifted off of my heart and I paid no notice of my head (mind) probably for the first time in my life. I have no idea the words that I uttered but I know that the context was thankfulness and the Holy Spirit spoke that message through me: A message of gratitude for my life recovered, my life saved, my life transformed, my life purposed - from my heart to the heavens and ultimately to my Father’s ear – on the wings of the messenger and translator, the kind and loving Holy Spirit. Since then, like any earthly relationship, I have only grown to love, trust and understand Him more with every conversation, comfort and bailout. And He has bailed me out of many battles, woes, fears and hurts. He is the tangible peace and strength that Jesus promised in the storms of life. And He

is the “speedily” in answered prayers. And I am convinced that He is the wings of God spoken of in the Psalms.

The Holy Spirit led me to Jesus, who reconciled me to my Father. It was the Holy Spirit who wooed me and spoke to my heart as a child. It was the Holy Spirit who lead me to the Cross when, in my human ignorance, I turned my back on God. He was always in my life even when I couldn’t feel His presence, and in hindsight, I can see the stepping stones that He built on the path of life that led me back to the arms of God despite my off-road wanderings.

Today, it is through Him that I am able to love the hardest-to-love people. Through Him I can find joy, peace and patience in the most difficult times. Through Him I can be kind and good in the most trying circumstances. Through Him I am faithful, gentle, and have self-control at times when there is no worldly reason to be so. The grace of Jesus and the mercy of Father God are profound truths that exist all on their own. But the Holy Spirit leads us to those truths and the understanding of them. Jesus’ blood poured out from His body but the Holy Spirit is the appropriation of that blood in and over our lives. The Holy Spirit is the application of anointing. When Jesus said, “My Father is working (John 5:17)”, It is through the Holy Spirit that His work manifests.

Jesus told the disciples “Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you (John 16:7).” Jesus is King of kings and worthy of all praise. There will never be another savior. However, His importance is equal to and side by side with the Holy Spirit. Today, we don’t have the Emmanuel in flesh walking amongst us. We aren’t fortunate to be one of the twelve who sat at His natural feet and heard his words between the lines of the written gospels. And although we weren’t among the crowds that followed Him while He walked the earth, we have His teachings and his truth in the written word of the bible. Through the Holy Spirit, not only do the words of the bible come alive and penetrate our hearts and minds, but we also understand the magnitude of Jesus’ sacrifice, the purpose of the shedding of his blood, broken body and the power of his resurrection through the gentle guidance of the Holy Spirit. Like a kinetic chain, the Holy Spirit points us to Jesus, who points us to the Father.

The Holy Spirit guides us to truth, deeper truth, and eventually all truth. Jesus said in John 14:26 that the Holy Spirit will remind us of everything that Jesus taught and spoke. Just as Jesus is the living Word of God, the Holy Spirit is so necessary for living out his teachings today. He alone is capable of being the peace that is needed during turbulent times. And only the power of the Holy Spirit can resurrect dead, lifeless souls into the bliss of Kingdom life. Who is He to you? How do you want to know Him? Ask Him today to reveal Himself to you in all of His wonderful ways.

Go Get Quiet

by Kelly Boyles

When I told my husband, I was struggling to write an article, he told me to, “Go get quiet with God.” I had to laugh because first off, that is what I always tell him to do when life gets crazy, and second, I am a mom, and all moms know that finding time to get quiet is extremely hard. Not saying that dads do not struggle finding quiet time, but moms always seem to have a to do list a mile long that never ends. For a mom, well at least for me, to take a moment and try and find some quiet time usually ends up with one of the kids coming to ask a question, or me thinking about one of those items on that long to do list. So where do you find your quiet time to spend with God? The answer to that question depends on the person. Everyone has a different way to spend time being quiet. Whether it is time spent in your prayer closet or time spent out in nature. There is no right or wrong way.

Psalms 46:10 states, “Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!” When you find the time to get quiet, be still, and really stop to listen for what He has to say, God does not usually reveal the answers to us in a loud booming voice. Sometimes, He reveals himself in small whispers. You just need to make sure that you are paying attention to the little things, even the little things that happen in everyday life. The days that we tend to get wrapped up in those “to do lists” and not think about God and how He wants us to act, are the days where we need to pay attention a little more. The hard part is when God does not answer right away and, we always want the answers right away. We must remember that God answers in His time and it is during the waiting where we learn more about ourselves and those around us. That is the time where our prayers may change or shift because we learn more with each step that He asks us to take. Philippians 4:6-7 says, “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God: and the peace of God which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” Even in the valleys, or during those chaotic times,



know that He is there, and He will answer in his perfect timing. Just keep praising Him and giving thanks for everything He is doing.

The valleys can feel like times when God is not with us, but He is. He is speaking to you in those little moments. You only need to close your eyes, take a breath, and pay attention. Listen with the intent of hearing and not just responding or trying to get to the next item on your list. He can be heard in the birds singing, a baby's cry, or a friend's words of encouragement. He can be felt in the wind blowing or a hug. He can be seen in a child's eyes and smile. Just take the time to stop and really look at what is going on around you amid all the chaos. Take time to get quiet and truly listen!

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Psalms 46:10*