

Kelly: Hello welcome to Cell Life Church's Discussion Series Building a Firm Foundation. When constructing any building you want to make sure that your foundation is firm and sound, you want to make sure you have the correct measurements, the correct tools, the right materials so that the building will stand the test of time and any storm that comes its way. Much like a building our lives must also be built on a firm foundation, there's principles that can withstand the test of time and the storms of society. And Jesus spoke about this in Mathew Chapter 7 when he preached the Sermon of the Mount and he use this concept of having a foundation built on the rock which is himself Jesus Christ.

Today we will be discussing an important element of a firm foundation we will be talking about the Holy Spirit who he is and his purpose in our lives. And you might want to take a moment and go to our website download a handout that is available with discussion questions, scripture references and other information. This discussion will also be available at the conclusion of our video, and so when we finish up you can pause the video and there will be a list of questions that you can go through as well. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling and empowerment the Christian is enabled to live a Godly life and through whom the gifts of the Holy Spirit are operational in the church today.

Danae: Amen, now the first scripture verse that we are going to be going through today is in John 7:37-39 and it says, "On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice; "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink, whoever believes in me as scripture has said rivers of living water will flow from within them." By this he meant the spirit whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the spirit had not been given since Jesus had not yet been glorified. Now the first element of the Holy Spirit that we are going to be talking about today is the indwelling of the Holy Spirit within us.

Now what does the indwelling of the Holy Spirit look like and what does it even mean, what does indwelling mean when we hear that word?

Kelly: It's kind of a big word.

Danae: It is a big word it can have a lot of connotations depending on what you use it as. [0:03:04] And well what it is, is basically the Holy Spirit inhabiting us.

Kelly: Right coming to live and take up room within our heart in who we are.

Danae: Exactly within our lives.

Kelly: Amen, amen you know we are going to look at Acts 2:1, we're going to read through verse 12 and its going to talk about the Holy Spirit, meeting man, coming to earth and it's a beautiful passage of scripture so let's read.

"When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 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. Now there were staying in Judea God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven.

When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all those who are speaking Galileans?"

Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome both Jews and converts to Judaism Cretans and Arabs -- we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

The Holy Spirit he guides us not only us the world but only us the world does not have access to him, you see what was happening here is the Holy Spirit descended upon the nations. The nations had gathered in Jerusalem and the Holy Spirit came and people surrounding them are like, "Wait, I understand these people are speaking in my language but they're not of my own descent of my own culture, how do they know?" Well see the Holy Spirit comes and that's what he does, gives us this language, this ability. And it was a beautiful thing and we see that the Holy Spirit is guiding them and that the world cannot understand that. And so these onlookers are seeing that not understanding because only those who have Jesus Christ has access to the Holy Spirit can only comprehend the works of him and indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

We see that in John 14:15-18 where Jesus says, "If you love me keep my commands and I will ask the Father and he will give you another advocate to help you and 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. "I will not leave you as orphans I will come to you." And this is where we see that indwelling of the Holy Spirit. This promise of the Holy Spirit that advocate coming and dwelling within us.

Danae: Amen, amen, now the important thing to remember is that it's amazing to have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. It's amazing -- it's an amazing blessing to have him come and live within us, but it is not enough to just have him come in and dwell with us. It is just the beginning what we need to realize, it's the beginning of a relationship as with everything else there's a purpose and we need to follow through with that purpose. So the indwelling of the Holy Spirit what does it do, well it empowers us, well what does it empower us to do?

Kelly: You know that's very interesting because you know we hear that word of being empowered in today's society. We hear that and really when we can say that certain things, certain people have empowered us to do great things or whatever. We used to talk about the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit is second element we're talking about is this empowerment that he gives us. When we are empowered that means we have the authority to do something, he gives us that boldness that we need, he gives us that courage, he gives us the words to speak. When we don't know what to speak, there are so many times where I have been speaking to somebody and listening their story and they're telling me about what they're going through and I'm praying Lord, I don't know what to say to this. I don't know how to answer this and the Holy Spirit comes upon me and gives me, empowers me, gives me the words that person needs to hear so that they can be ministered to.

Danae: Amen, amen and we see in John 16:7-15 how it talks about that empowerment and it says, "But verily truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, he will prove the world to being in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment. About sin, because people do not believe in me about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the 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 glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive me from – will receive from me what he will make known to you.”

Kelly: Amen you know in this case the Holy Spirit empowers us to know the mind of God and apply it to situations and that’s exactly what we are talking about. When you are in that conversation or even if you are in a situation that is so outrageous, confusing beyond you, the Holy Spirit comes and indwells and empowers and takes over and just allows you to speak gently and with kindness and maybe even in a rough harsh environment you know so many ways.

Danae: Gives you wisdom, that’s what the Holy Spirit does. It gives the knowledge how to guide through these landmines you know the more you speak to people the more you speak out about your faith in God, you’re going to be put in a lot of those situations where you think God I have no idea what I’m supposed to do here and that’s why we need to rely on Him more and then his Holy Spirit comes and he guides us.

Kelly: Exactly, exactly and sometimes what we want to do isn’t exactly the right thing to do.

Danae: Exactly.

Kelly: You know and we need the Holy Spirit to rely on. We can see sin, righteousness and judgments from God’s perspective you know and that’s so important because sometimes I think we tend to classify sin as well this sin is not as bad as this sin and that sin, oh don’t ever go there. You know where is sin is sin and the Holy Spirit gives you that perspective, same with the righteousness, we can be able to see, we know right from wrong that discernment that comes from having that relationship with the Holy Spirit and His empowerment in us. The world doesn’t see these because the world doesn’t have the Holy Spirit and therefore it cannot comprehend God’s perspective. And there’s many times where you could be in conversation with somebody and you know beyond a shadow of a doubt that this issue is wrong, you know it, it’s against God’s ordinance, precepts, everything. It’s against God’s holiness and it is wrong and yet somebody else is like well I don’t see a problem with that and they’re justifying everything but because they don’t have the Holy Spirit, they don’t have that discernment and that perspective that only comes from having the Holy Spirit in us.

Danae: Exactly. The third element of the Holy Spirit that we’re going to be talking about is the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Now, the gifts of the Holy Spirit are not for one group of people, they’re not just this isolation, oh these people have this but these people can’t. It’s whoever believes in God and have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. You can be male or female, young, old.

Kelly: Rich, poor, doesn’t matter. You have Jesus; you can receive the Holy Spirit.

Danae: Exactly.

Kelly: Amen, amen.

Danae: Exactly and you see that in Joel 2:28:29, it says, “And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams; your young men will see visions. Even on my servants both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.”

Kelly: Amen.

Danae: See we're equipped for the actions that are put before us with the Holy Spirit. God equips us, that's what the Holy Spirit is for, He comes, He empowers and we're equipped with the gifts to act in these moments.

Kelly: Right, you know He'll tell us to do something, calls us to do something and He equips us to be able to accomplish that whatever He's called us to do, He's given us those gifts. So, He equips us, we – it's not in us to have those gifts instead he gives us. And so we're going to read Romans 12:6-8 and it says, "We have different gifts according to the grace given to each of us." If your gift is prophesying then prophesy in accordance with your faith, if it is serving then serve, if it is teaching then teach, if it is to encourage then give encouragement. If it is giving then give generously, if it is to lead then do it diligently, if it is to show mercy do it cheerfully. We all have gifts and the Holy Spirit is who gives them and who empowers us with them. My gifts are going to be different than your gifts.

Danae: Yes.

Kelly: You know and we're going to complement each other. And we have a responsibility to use them to the very best of our ability and the Bible talks about this in the parable of the talents. We learn that God has given us gifts, given us talents to use for Him, for His kingdom. The gifts of the Holy Spirit all fall in those categories that Paul lists in Romans chapter 12 what we've just read. Each of us is unique and each of us receives gifts from the Holy Spirit just as unique as we each are.

Danae: Amen, amen. I love that, how we're all unique in God and that our uniqueness we all have gifts according to His plan for us and I love that. So, what have we learned today about the Holy Spirit? Well, the first element we talked about was the indwelling, the first thing we have to do is we have to allow the Holy Spirit to come and indwell within us that we can live and commune with Him. And once we have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit He gives us the empowerment to use the gifts of God, to use the gifts so that we have the ability to act upon the plan that God has given for our lives. So, the indwelling is the Holy Spirit inhabiting us so that we may be empowered to live Godly lives, to use the gifts of the Holy Spirit to testify about our faith.

Kelly: You know and you think of the Holy Spirit too just kind of being like or even more than this sort of the icing on the cake you know I mean it's just a relationship with Jesus is so beautiful. You know God the father and then have the Holy Spirit that just really helps us go through life you know just gives us words and actions and courage and all those things to fulfill the great commission and it's just a beautiful thing that the gift of the Holy Spirit that we have just a wonderful thing. And so we just want to thank you so much for joining us today. We want to encourage you to contact us, if you have any other questions, if you have comments for us we just -- we really enjoy hearing from you. Please visit us on our website, our Facebook or YouTube channel. You can also follow us on Twitter, iTunes and Stitcher. Please join us next time as we will be discussing Evangelism, until next time bye, bye.