## Bible Study: Holy Spirit – Week 2

- Of the various ministries of the Holy Spirit David listed (in his sermon)—spiritual insight to see sin, repentance, new birth, identity, fruit, pointing us to Jesus and his word, and spiritual gifts— which one do you think our church focuses on the most? And the least?
  What are the consequences of where we place our focus? How might an imbalance shape our discipleship, our ministry, or our mission?
- 2. At creation, the Spirit brings order out of chaos (Gen1:1-4). Where and how might the Spirit be doing the same today—in our lives, in our church, or in the wider world?
- 3. Adam (the Hebrew word for "man") is a created being, like the animals. But the method of his creation is different, occurring in two stages (Gen 2:7). Why is this significant? What does it allow humanity to be and do that distinguishes us not only from animals, but also from angels?
- In Ezekiel 37, the recreation of God's people also involves two stages. How does this echo Genesis? And how does it look ahead to Jesus' baptism? (Lk 3:21-22)
- 5. The baptism of Jesus is rich with meaning. It can be seen as (at least):
  - A confirmation of who Jesus is (God's Son),
  - A commissioning at the start of his public ministry,
  - And an enactment of his solidarity with humanity—showing what it looks like to bear God's image.
  - What are the practical implications of each of these for us, as those who also bear God's image?
- 6. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus—the God-man—is empowered by the Holy Spirit to live a fully human life. How do we see this played out in his ministry? What does this teach us about the Spirit's role in our own lives?

- 7. Romans 5:12–21 describes Jesus as the second Adam in terms of justification. Adam's sin brought condemnation; Christ's obedience brings justification—a grace gift that declares us righteous. How is the Spirit active in both justification and sanctification? Can you think of any verses to illustrate?
  - Justification is being declared right with God, once for all, through faith in Jesus.
  - Sanctification is being made more like Jesus, over time, by the Holy Spirit.
- 8. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus transitions from carpenter to public ministry through the anointing of the Holy Spirit. After his baptism, Jesus is full of the Spirit and led by the Spirit.

How and why do we need the Holy Spirit in order to truly live as image-bearers of God?

Thank God that he sends his Spirit, in both the areas we notice, and in ways we overlook. Ask for the Spirit's power to help transform one part of your life more into what it should be as an image bearer of God.