

## RECAP

As you reflect on last week's sermon were you able to take a step forward in obedience to be a Spirit-filled sending church either in prayer, financial giving, joining a Barnabas group, attending a missions event, or welcoming missionary families?

## IDEA 1

**Spirit Empowered Worship & Prayer:** It is in the spirit-empowered prayer and worship that we hear our instructions for the role we play in this unfolding story - it is where we discover our call to action. It is in the spirit-empowered prayer and worship that we Behold the King.

- How would you define worship and prayer in the context of a local church and Life groups?
- What's the importance of gathering together both for Saturday/Sunday service and in Life Groups during the week?
- In what ways does Holy Spirit work within and through our prayers as a corporate group?
- What do you think it means to Behold the King?

## IDEA 2

**Spirit Empowered Unity:** The Spirit comes to unite, not divide. When the Spirit falls - notice the working out of unity - they were together and shared all. People from varying linguistic backgrounds, with cultural differences, undoubtedly with differing world-views - all gathered under the banner of Jesus. A new kingdom - a clear allegiance

- How was the early Church unified in the Day of Pentecost? Is this reality available to us today?
- Why is it difficult to maintain unity in our world/culture today? What should be the church's response?
- In what ways does the unity of the church become a means of witness for the gospel to the outside world?

## SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

**Spirit Empowered Authority:** The final characteristic that Rob mentioned of a Spirit-empowered Church was authority and power.

All authority is God's. It is given to us, delegated to us to bring His ways into being. We are authorized.....some of you might be trying to earn it - you feel insignificant and insufficient - but friends, we all do - but we are authorized.....

*The Spirit is given to us so that God's work may be done through us. -NT Wright.*

**Discuss with your group these questions:**

***How is the Church called to demonstrate the authority/power of the Spirit in their spheres of influence, social sectors, and their city?***

***How is God commissioning you guys as a Life Group to walk in the authority and power given by God?***

## APPLICATION

As we celebrate the Day of Pentecost and Holy Spirits invitation to be empowered for service consider the way Jesus was led and invited the Spirit's work. Read each passage and think through how you might invite Holy Spirits presence, and power into your life.

- **Baptism:** Luke 3:15-22
- **Fasting:** Matthew 4:1-11
- **Silence and Solitude:** Mark 1:35-39
- **Kingdom Work:** Luke 4:14-22

This week invite Holy Spirit to first be a part of your everyday life in becoming more like Jesus (presence). Second invite Holy Spirit to empower you to do the things Jesus did in his authority (power).