

Being a Spirit-Filled Disciple

MISSION OBJECTIVES

- A. I will deepen my understanding of the impact of discipleship training, conversion, and the Holy Spirit on the ability to witness.
- B. I will experience a time of retreat in order to draw closer to God.

TEAM CARE AND ACCOUNTABILITY (20 Minutes)

1. What did you do to help someone tangibly since we last met?
2. What did you learn about helping immigrants, refugees, or international students from the agencies or schools you contacted?
3. What other experiences have you had in following up on your cross-cultural friendships. (Keep using and referring to your *Contact Log*.)
4. What did you learn from study #4 in *My Favorite Missionary* and the video clips?
5. What needs or challenges are you facing that we can pray for?
6. Pray together, especially for each other and the friends from other cultures whom you have met.

PRESENTATION (22:19 Minutes)

Watch: *Being a Spirit-Filled Disciple*

DISCOVERY AND DISCUSSION

1. How do you feel after watching *Being a Spirit-Filled Disciple* and what did you learn?
2. When you are reaching out to people from other cultures, which aspects of the Holy Spirit, such as the fruits, gifts, and tongues, do you personally feel a need for?

3. Let's explore a little how Peter became a Spirit-filled disciple of Jesus. Read Mark 1:16-18. What was Jesus' primary method of training the disciples?

4. Jesus invited Peter to spend time with Him, called him to walk away from things that would distract him, and led him into serving others. Jesus calls us to do the same as His disciples. What specific steps do you think you can take that will help you grow closer to Him, have greater victory, and be a more effective witness?

5. Even after more than three years of learning from the best teacher, Peter was not ready to be a faithful witness under persecution. Read Luke 22:31-34. Jesus called him to a deeper conversion. Consider these words: "Let us remember that a Christlike life is the most powerful argument that can be advanced in favor of Christianity, and that a cheap Christian character works more harm in the world than the character of a worldling" (*Christian Service* 26). "Ten truly converted, willing-minded, unselfish workers can do more in the missionary field than one hundred who confine their efforts to set forms, and preserve mechanical rules, working without a deep love for souls" (*Ibid.* 262).

What do you think it means to be truly converted and how does that change a person's witness?

6. Read Acts 1:4-5, 8. After Jesus trained the disciples, and they experienced His love and salvation through the cross, why do you think they still needed the Holy Spirit in order to become effective witnesses to their own people and to the world?

7. Consider these words: "As the disciples waited for the fulfillment of the promise, they humbled their hearts in true repentance and confessed their unbelief.... The disciples prayed with intense earnestness for a fitness to meet men and in their daily intercourse to speak words that would lead sinners to Christ. Putting away all differences, all desire for the supremacy, they came close together in Christian fellowship.... These days of preparation were days of deep heart searching. The disciples felt their spiritual need and cried to the Lord for the holy unction that was to fit them for the work of soul saving. They did not ask for a blessing for

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themselves merely. They were weighted with the burden of the salvation of souls. They realized that the gospel was to be carried to the world, and they claimed the power that Christ had promised” (*Acts of the Apostles* 35-37).

What do you think you and your church need to do in order to receive the Holy Spirit in a way similar to how the early church did?

ASSIGNMENTS (5 Minutes)

1. What have you learned today and how will you use it this week?
2. The disciples were prepared by (1) being disciples of Jesus, (2) experiencing true conversion, and (3) being filled with the Holy Spirit. Which of the following will you immerse yourself in (at least twenty minutes a day) to really grow more?

	I will begin to study through Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John (circle one) to learn better how to be a disciple of Jesus.
	I will study the story of the death of Jesus and Romans 1-8 to understand and experience more about true conversion.
	I will study the book of Acts to understand better what it means to be filled with the Holy Spirit.
	I will find at least one person who I can meet with weekly in person or by phone to spend time growing in these areas.
	Other:

3. This week take time for a spiritual retreat, either by yourself or with your team. You might spend the Sabbath together at someone’s home, the park, or at a camping area. If you cannot spend a whole day, set aside a full afternoon. *Ten Areas of the Holy Spirit*, at the end of the lesson, is one resource you could use. Look also at the website revivalandreformation.org for many excellent resources. Visit reachtheworldnextdoor.com under *Pray and Seek Revival* for more studies. Focus on one or more of the three areas above.

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4. What do you plan to do to follow up on any of the friendships you have developed? Stay diligent on updating the *Contact Log*. You will find it more and more useful for prayer and follow-up.
5. Mobilize and Multiply. Share with a friend or family member what you learned about the importance of preparing to witness effectively through discipleship training, a deeper conversion, and relying on the Holy Spirit. Encourage him or her to join you for a retreat to draw closer to God or to study one of the areas under number 2 above.
6. Watch the following video clip (check online for updates):
 - Pastor Sam Ngala shares inspiration with his adventure in depending on the Holy Spirit.
7. Complete study #5 in *My Favorite Missionary* and focus your prayers on “The Persecuted” in *Praying for the World Next Door*.
8. Complete the form: *Field Activity #5*.

TEAM PRAYER (10 Minutes)

Pray that God will bless your retreats with a mighty movement of His Spirit; to grow closer in your relationship with God; to access His love and His power.

- *“Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!” (Psalm 46:10).*
- *Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high (Luke 24:49).*
- *The humble, simple, persevering prayer of the faithful one will now penetrate heaven as surely as did the prayer of Christ... Christ’s example opens before us the path by which we may come to a never-failing source of strength, from which we may draw grace and power to resist the enemy and come off victorious. We find that upon all important occasions He retired to the grove, or to the solitude of the mountains, and offered earnest, persevering prayer to God (Signs of the Times, July 24, 1893).*