



THE MESSENGER

MARCH 26, 2023

NEWS AND NOTES

Congregational Meeting

April

Our Next Gospel Meeting

Today through Friday

Weekly Bible Studies

Thursday at 1 on Zoom

Friday at 1 on Zoom

Times of Service

Sunday

Bible study: 9:45 AM

Worship: 10:45 AM; 6 PM

Wednesday

Bible study: 7:30 PM

(Immediately followed by a
short worship service)

First Friday of Month

Singing

February 3, 7:30

Address and Contact

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Christ

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THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE SINNER

What causes a person to recognize they need cleansing from sin and salvation? Why does a person ever become a Christian in the first place? Why did *we* make such a choice? I suspect our answers would sound rather uniform. We were taught the message of Jesus Christ, studied scripture for ourselves, came to believe it, came to faith in Jesus Christ, and became Christians as a result of that faith. This is Romans 1:16, right? Yet consider that without the Holy Spirit we would have no scripture to study, no knowledge of Jesus Christ, and no revealed power of God for salvation.

We learned in an earlier article that the Holy Spirit revealed the Word of God. He influences the hearts and minds of unbelievers through that Word. How often have we seen it play out, even in our own lives? Paul declared, “So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.” (Romans 1:17) Now start in verse 5 and note the number of Old Testament quotes and allusions leading up to verse 17. Do you see how they are in almost every verse? The Spirit put them there. Whether Moses, David, Isaiah, or Paul the Holy Spirit was guiding their pen. However many have been won to faith in Jesus Christ as a result of these passages and others, it may properly be stated that they were influenced by the Holy Spirit.

Let’s pursue this a bit further. Take a moment to read John 16:7-15. At this point in John’s gospel Jesus has concluded his public ministry and was preparing his apostles for his death. He also speaks of what would occur among

Members Needing Our Prayers

John Thompson, Mary Weatherholt, Joyce Bolton, Julie Patton, Rick Small, Benny Poynter, Richard and Janet Brundige, Rhonda Boyd, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson

Others Needing Prayer

Eli Kempton, Sophie Brown, Fay Thomas, Glen Perkins, Edra Bernard, Valari Jones-Butler (Valari is Gina Seabolt's former co-worker. Her daughter is undergoing chemo for breast cancer. Her 21 year old nephew was killed in a shooting), Charlie Hoy, Marc Nations, Janice Parsons, Veronica Bowman, Charles Bishop, Allison Walker, Mark Nickles, Dwayne Harrod, William Roberts, Paul and Marrian Lyda, Dana and her children, Shane (a relative of Cindi), Ron Harmon, Patty Hill

To Our Guests

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them after he had ascended. Note his teaching on the Holy Spirit here. When the Spirit ("Helper") was sent to the apostles, he would convict the world concerning sin, righteousness, and judgment. In verses 9-11 he offers additional information on each of those three points (sin, righteousness, judgment). Look at it again and notice that the convicting would come through revelation. The Spirit would reveal truths about these things which would result in convicted hearts. When we bring verses 12-15 into the equation, we see that Jesus was connecting the convicting work of the Holy Spirit with his guiding the apostles into all truth. To put it another way, the work of verses 8-11 would be accomplished through the promise of verses 12-15. Why was the early church so devoted to the apostle's doctrine (Acts 2:42)? John 16:7-15 is why!

The Holy Spirit influences, convicts, and motivates people through the word he has revealed. Adam Litmer

Elders	Deacons	Evangelist
Troy Antle	Richard Brundige	Adam Litmer
David Collins	Adam Daniels	
	Marcus Lake	
	Adam Litmer	
	Frank Patton	
	Jamie Powell	
	Pat Seabolt	
	Matt Thompson	
	James Weatherholt	

