

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10 • 8:30-4:30

DISCIPLESHIP SEMINAR I

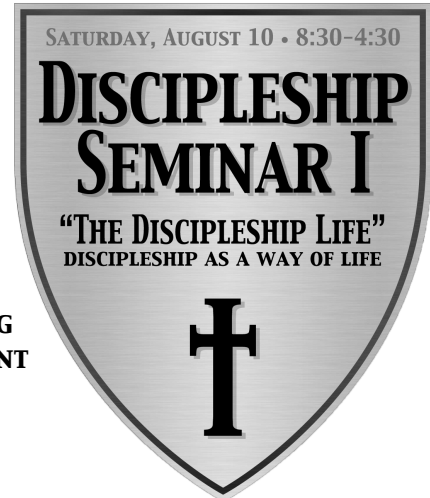
"THE DISCIPLESHIP LIFE"
DISCIPLESHIP AS A WAY OF LIFE



CONFERENCE NOTEBOOK

WELCOME

JESUS' LAST COMMAND TO HIS FIRST TWELVE DISCIPLES WAS THAT THEY "MAKE DISCIPLES" (MATTHEW 28:18-20, ESV). JESUS ENVISIONED THAT THIS WOULD SIMPLY BE THEIR "WAY OF LIFE" – THAT AS THEY WERE "GOING," THEY WOULD LABOR TO HELP OTHER PEOPLE FIND ("BAPTIZING") AND FOLLOW ("TEACHING") JESUS. INDEED, THIS IS WHAT PAUL HAD IN MIND WHEN HE WROTE IN COLOSSIANS 1:28 – "WE PROCLAIM [CHRIST], WARNING EVERYONE AND TEACHING EVERYONE WITH ALL WISDOM, THAT WE MAY PRESENT EVERYONE MATURE IN CHRIST."



ARE YOU LIVING THE DISCIPLESHIP LIFE?

DISCIPLESHIP SEMINAR I IS GEARED TO HELP YOU DEVELOP A PERSONAL PHILOSOPHY, METHODOLOGY, AND MOTIVATION OF DISCIPLESHIP – BEING A FOLLOWER OF JESUS WHO HELPS OTHER PEOPLE FIND AND FOLLOW JESUS. IN ADDITION TO HEARING FROM A KEYNOTE SPEAKER WHO HAS BEEN LIVING "THE DISCIPLESHIP LIFE" FOR OVER 30 YEARS AND WHO WILL HELP BIBLICALLY DIRECT US TO DO THE SAME, WE WILL ENJOY SEVERAL WORKSHOP SPEAKERS WHO HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN DISCIPLESHIP IN THEIR SECULAR WORKPLACES. THEIR TESTIMONIES, AS WELL AS A COMBINED Q&A SESSION, WILL AID ALL OF US IN STARTING OR ENHANCING OUR OWN "DISCIPLESHIP LIVES."

SCHEDULE

- 8:30-9:00 – BREAKFAST
- 9:00-10:15 – SESSION 1: *THE DISCIPLESHIP PHILOSOPHY*
- 10:15-10:30 – BREAK
- 10:30-10:45 – WORSHIP
- 10:45-11:45 – SESSION 2: *HOW TO LIVE THE CHRISTIAN LIFE*
- 11:45-12:30 – LUNCH
- 12:30-2:00 – WORKSHOP*
- 2:00-2:15 – BREAK
- 2:15-3:00 – Q&A PANEL
- 3:00-3:15 – BREAK
- 3:15-3:30 – WORSHIP
- 3:30-4:30 – SESSION 3: *THE OUTPOURING OF THE SPIRIT*
- 4:30-4:45 – CLOSING PRAYER

* DURING THIS WORKSHOP, A SPECIAL SESSION WILL BE OFFERED WITH STEVE PETTIT FOR PASTORS AND CHURCH LEADERS. THE TOPIC WILL BE "*TEN STEPS TO REVITALIZING YOUR SINGLES MINISTRY.*"

SPEAKERS



DISCIPLESHIP METHOD.

STEVE PETTIT IS A NATIVE OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND A GRADUATE OF THE CITADEL, WHERE HE CAME TO CHRIST HIS FRESHMAN YEAR. HE HAS SERVED ON A CHURCH STAFF, DIRECTED A CHRISTIAN CAMP, AND MINISTERED THE GOSPEL AS AN EVANGELIST FOR OVER 30 YEARS. MOST RECENTLY, HE BECAME THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF CROSS IMPACT MINISTRIES, WHERE THE LORD IS USING HIM TO STIR LOCAL CHURCHES REGARDING REVITALIZING THEIR SINGLES MINISTRY AND REACHING OUT TO SECULAR CAMPUSES. HIS BROAD IMPACT INCLUDES SEVERAL BIBLE STUDIES THAT HE HAS WRITTEN AND HIS P.O.W.E.R. GROUP



JEFF LEFFEW SERVES AS THE PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER OF SERVANTHR, A HUMAN RESOURCES SERVICES PROVIDER. THE COMPANY'S WEBSITE DEMONSTRATES THAT JEFF VIEWS HIS WORKPLACE AS THE MINISTRY GOD HAS ENTRUSTED TO HIM. THROUGHOUT THE LAST 10 YEARS, JEFF HAS HAD AN ONGOING AND FRUITFUL MINISTRY OF EVANGELISTIC AND DISCIPLESHIP BIBLE STUDIES WITH CONTACTS GOD HAS PROVIDED FOR HIM IN THE BUSINESS WORLD. FURTHERMORE, JEFF'S DISCIPLESHIP LIFE EVIDENCES ITSELF IN HIS FAMILY'S LOVING, CREATIVE, AND REGULAR OUTREACH TO THEIR NEIGHBORS.



RYON REASEN HAS BEEN EMPLOYED IN THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT OF DELTA FAUCET COMPANY FOR THE LAST 11+ YEARS. HE IS CURRENTLY EMPLOYED AS A CONTROLLER FOR THEIR INTERNAL OPERATIONS AND TRAVELS REGULARLY OVERSEAS. LIKE JEFF, RYON HAS MAXIMIZED THE MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES OF HIS WORKPLACE, GRACIOUSLY AND BOLDLY SHARING CHRIST IN CASUAL CONVERSATION AND REGULAR BIBLE STUDIES. RECENTLY, WE REJOICED TO SEE ONE OF HIS COWORKERS SAVED, BAPTIZED, AND IN THE PROCESS OF BEING ADDED TO OUR CHURCH.

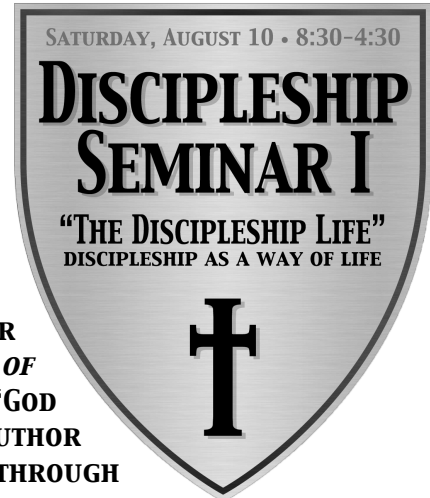


MARKED BY RICH BIBLICAL UNDERSTANDING AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION.

DR. NELL COLLINS IS THE FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR OF HOPE IN CRISIS, A MINISTRY OF BIBLICAL COUNSELING TO CANCER PATIENTS. WHEN SHE WAS 29 YEARS OLD SHE BECAME A REGISTERED NURSE AND WAS PREPARED TO SERVE THE LORD AS A MISSIONARY, BUT THE DIAGNOSIS OF MALIGNANT MELANOMA AND THE TWO-YEAR TREATMENT PROCESS THAT FOLLOWED SIDETRACKED THOSE PLANS. SINCE THEN, SHE HAS GIVEN HER LIFE TO THE MINISTRY OF TAKING GOD'S WORD TO OTHER CANCER PATIENTS WHO HAVE SEEN THEIR DREAMS SHATTERED. SHE HAS AUTHORED SEVERAL BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS, ALL OF WHICH ARE

SESSION 1: THE DISCIPLESHIP PHILOSOPHY

ALMOST EVERYTHING I LEARNED ABOUT LIVING THE CHRISTIAN LIFE IN BASIC FORM I LEARNED WHILE I WAS IN COLLEGE. I GRADUATED FROM THE CITADEL, THE MILITARY COLLEGE OF SOUTH CAROLINA IN 1978. I WAS CONVERTED MY FRESHMAN YEAR THROUGH THE FAITHFUL WITNESS OF A CLOSE, PERSONAL FRIEND. I WAS DISCIPLED BY AN UPPERCLASSMAN NAMED JIM SMITH. ON ONE PARTICULAR DAY HE HANDED ME A BOOK ENTITLED, *THE MASTER PLAN OF EVANGELISM*, BY ROBERT E. COLEMAN, AND SAID TO ME, "GOD WANTS TO USE YOU TO CHANGE THE WORLD!" THE AUTHOR EXPLAINED CHRIST'S PLAN TO REACH THE WORLD THROUGH MULTIPLYING DISCIPLES. THE VISION BECAME CLEAR TO ME AT THAT TIME AND HAS NEVER DIMMED.



CHRIST'S COMMAND AND PLAN FOR WORLDWIDE EVANGELISM IS TO MAKE DISCIPLES (MATTHEW 28:18-19). THIS MUST BE AT THE VERY HEART AND CORE OF SINGLES MINISTRY. OTHERWISE, YOUR MINISTRY MAY SIMPLY TURN INTO A SOCIAL GATHERING OR A PLACE FOR MORAL PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT.

SO, WHAT IS A DISCIPLE? A DISCIPLE IS A CONFESSIONAL BELIEVER WHO IS IDENTIFYING WITH THE LOCAL CHURCH, STRIVING TO WALK IN OBEDIENT SUBMISSION TO GOD'S COMMANDS, AND WORKING TOWARDS MAKING DISCIPLES. A DISCIPLE IS ONE WHO IS PASSIONATE ABOUT LEARNING GOD'S WORD AND CONNECTING WITH LIKE-MINDED BELIEVERS.

KEY STRATEGIC GOALS OF A SINGLES MINISTRY SHOULD BE TO MENTOR INDIVIDUALS SPIRITUALLY, CULTIVATE AN ATMOSPHERE OF SINCERE WORSHIP, AND DEVELOP A STRUCTURE WHERE LEADERS CAN RISE, GROW, AND THRIVE. THIS CAN ONLY HAPPEN WHEN THERE EXISTS A CLEAR BIBLICAL PHILOSOPHY OF DISCIPLESHIP BASED ON CHRIST'S GREAT COMMISSION.

BIBLICAL DISCIPLESHIP MUST BE _____

JESUS COMMANDED HIS OWN DISCIPLES TO "...GO, AND MAKE DISCIPLES." THESE WERE SELECTED MEN INTO WHOM HE HAD POURED HIS LIFE OVER A PERIOD OF TIME (2-3 YEARS). THESE DISCIPLES HAD BEEN WITH JESUS FROM THE TIME HE WAS BAPTIZED BY JOHN IN THE JORDAN RIVER UNTIL HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN (ACTS 1:21-22). THEY STUDIED IN THE YESHIVA OF JESUS UNDER THEIR RABBI. THEY HAD LEARNED FROM WHAT HE SAID AND DID. NOW, HE WAS COMMANDING THEM TO GO ON A MISSION AND INTENTIONALLY DO FOR OTHERS WHAT HE HAD DONE FOR THEM. "...GO, AND MAKE DISCIPLES."

1. DISCIPLESHIP IS THE _____ OF ALL BELIEVERS.

JESUS' COMMAND WAS INCLUSIVE FOR ALL BELIEVERS. EVERYONE IS TO BE INVOLVED. FURTHERMORE, THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN DISCIPLED ARE TO DO THE SAME THING. THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH WAS NOT BASED SIMPLY ON WHAT CHRIST HAD DONE IN HIS WORK ON THE

CROSS. IT WAS PLACED INTO THE HANDS OF HIS OWN DISCIPLES WHO WERE REQUIRED TO BE FAITHFUL IN PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL AND MAKING DISCIPLES.

2. ALL DISCIPLES HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE _____ TO FULFILL THIS COMMAND.

JESUS ASSURES EACH DISCIPLE THAT THEY CAN ACCOMPLISH THIS MISSION BECAUSE HE HAS ALL THE AUTHORITY OF HEAVEN. WHEN JESUS DRAMATICALLY ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN, HE ENTERED INTO HIS FATHER'S PRESENCE. HE WAS SEATED AT HIS FATHER'S RIGHT HAND OF POWER AND GLORIOUSLY INAUGURATED AS LORD OVER ALL. EVERYTHING IN HEAVEN AND IN EARTH HAS BEEN PUT UNDER HIS AUTHORITY. DISCIPLES HAVE THE BACKING OF HEAVEN BEHIND THEIR MISSION.

JESUS ALSO PROMISED THAT HIS OWN PRESENCE WOULD BE WITH HIS DISCIPLES WHEREVER THEY WENT IN THE WORLD. THE FATHER SENT THE HOLY SPIRIT TO MANIFEST THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST IN THEIR LIVES AND TO ENABLE THE DISCIPLES WITH GOD'S POWER TO FULFILL THEIR MINISTRY.

3. THE CHURCH MUST BE _____ IN FULFILLING THIS COMMAND.

DISCIPLESHIP WILL NOT HAPPEN IF THE CHURCH DOES NOT MAKE IT THEIR GOAL. THIS MUST BE AT THE HEART OF ALL PLANNING, SCHEDULING, AND TRAINING.

BIBLICAL DISCIPLESHIP MUST BE _____

CHRISTIANITY IS RELATIONAL. BELIEVERS ENTER INTO A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FATHER THROUGH THE SON. THE HOLY SPIRIT ENTERS INTO THE BODY OF BELIEVERS AND MAKES REAL THE BELIEVER'S RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD. THE CHURCH IS THE BODY OF CHRIST, AND BELIEVERS ARE INTERCONNECTED AS INDIVIDUAL PARTS OF THE BODY. THE TWO GREATEST COMMANDS ARE TO LOVE GOD AND TO LOVE MAN. EVERYTHING IS RELATIONAL.

THIS MEANS THAT DISCIPLESHIP IS MUCH MORE THAN AN ORGANIZED PROGRAM, A BIBLE STUDY, OR A SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS. WHAT IS DISCIPLESHIP? IT IS THE LOVING COMMITMENT TO THE SPIRITUAL MATURITY OF OTHER BELIEVERS IN HELPING TO BRING THEM INTO GREATER CHRIST-LIKENESS. THIS RELATIONAL PROCESS SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN TWO KEY AREAS:

1. DISCIPLESHIP AND THE _____

THE COMMAND TO MAKE DISCIPLES IS EXPLAINED IN A THREE-STEP PROCESS: GO, BAPTIZE, AND TEACH. BAPTISM IS THE BELIEVER'S PUBLIC CONFESSION OF FAITH. THROUGH BAPTISM ONE IS TESTIFYING OF THEIR UNION WITH CHRIST IN HIS DEATH, BURIAL, AND RESURRECTION. BAPTISM IS ALSO AN ORDINANCE OF THE CHURCH. THEREFORE, THE MAKING OF DISCIPLES SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE CHURCH. THE DUTY OF THE CHURCH IS TO ESTABLISH DISCIPLESHIP AT ITS VERY CORE, AND TO DEVELOP A STRUCTURE WHERE IT CAN TAKE PLACE.

THE MINISTRY OF CROSS IMPACT IS DESIGNED TO WORK THROUGH THE CHURCH AS AN ORGANIC, GROWING DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY THAT DEVELOPS A PASSIONATE DESIRE TO REACH CAMPUSES FOR CHRIST.

2. DISCIPLESHIP AND THE

WHEN JESUS GAVE THE GREAT COMMISSION, HIS DISCIPLESHIP DIRECTIVE INCLUDED THESE PERSONAL PRONOUNS: “YE...THEM...THEM...YOU” (MATTHEW 28:19-20). THIS MEANS THAT DISCIPLESHIP IS INTENSELY PERSONAL. IF IT IS GOING TO BE EFFECTIVE IT WILL REQUIRE PERSONAL MENTORSHIP. PAUL USES THE METAPHOR OF A BODY TO DESCRIBE THIS INTERPERSONAL CONNECTION OF BELIEVERS; “AND NOT HOLDING THE HEAD, FROM WHICH ALL THE BODY BY JOINTS AND BANDS HAVING NOURISHMENT MINISTERED, AND KNIT TOGETHER, INCREASETH WITH THE INCREASE OF GOD” (COLOSSIANS 2:19).

THIS PROCESS OF DISCIPLESHIP IS BEST ACCOMPLISHED IN SMALLER, INTIMATE SETTINGS WHERE BELIEVERS CAN CONNECT IN DEEPER RELATIONSHIPS. THROUGHOUT THE HISTORY OF CHURCH RENEWAL, SMALL GROUPS WERE AN ESSENTIAL PART. DURING THE GREAT AWAKENING IN THE 1730S, MEMBERS OF JONATHAN EDWARDS CHURCH MET TOGETHER REGULARLY FOR TIMES OF BIBLE STUDY, PRAYER, AND PERSONAL ACCOUNTABILITY. THE GENIUS OF THE METHODIST MOVEMENT IN ENGLAND IN THE 18TH CENTURY WAS THE ORGANIZED MEETINGS OF BELIEVERS IN SMALL GROUPS CALLED BANDS AND CLASSES. THESE RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES MET TOGETHER FOR TIMES OF CONFESSION, PRAYER, AND BIBLE STUDY. THEY ALSO HAD INTIMATE TIMES OF FELLOWSHIP AND TESTIMONY CALLED LOVE FEASTS. THIS PATTERN OF BELIEVERS MEETING IN SMALL-GROUPS STARTED WITH THE EARLY CHURCH AFTER THE DAY OF PENTECOST WHERE THEY MET TOGETHER TO STUDY, FELLOWSHIP, CELEBRATE THE LORD’S SUPPER, AND PRAY (ACTS 2:42-44).

ULTIMATELY, WE HAVE THE PERFECT EXAMPLE IN JESUS AND HIS TWELVE DISCIPLES. AS HE LIVED WITH THEM AND TAUGHT THEM, HE MODELED DISCIPLESHIP THROUGH TEACHING, ENCOURAGING, LISTENING, INVESTING HIS RESOURCES (TIME, ENERGY, AND MONEY), CONFRONTING, AND PRAYING FOR THEM.

BIBLICAL DISCIPLESHIP MUST BE

CHRIST’S DISCIPLES WERE COMMISSIONED TO GO TO PEOPLE OF ALL ETHNICITIES. WHEN JESUS COMMISSIONED HIS DISCIPLES TO “GO THEREFORE AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS (*ETHNOS*)...” HE WAS REFERRING TO ALL DIFFERENT KINDS OF PEOPLE GROUPS. JOHN LATER WROTE IN THE REVELATION THAT THESE DISCIPLES WOULD COME FROM EVERY “TRIBE AND LANGUAGE AND PEOPLE AND NATION” (5:9). CHRIST’S VISION CAN ONLY BE FULFILLED THROUGH:

1. WORLD-WIDE

AND CHURCH

IT IS OBVIOUS THAT ALL OF JESUS’ DISCIPLES LEFT ISRAEL TO PREACH THE GOSPEL THROUGHOUT THE GENTILE NATIONS. THEY SPREAD OUT AND WENT AS FAR AS ROME, NORTHERN AFRICA, IRAN, AND INDIA PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL AND ESTABLISHING CHURCHES. BIBLICAL DISCIPLESHIP MUST INVOLVE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CHURCHES.

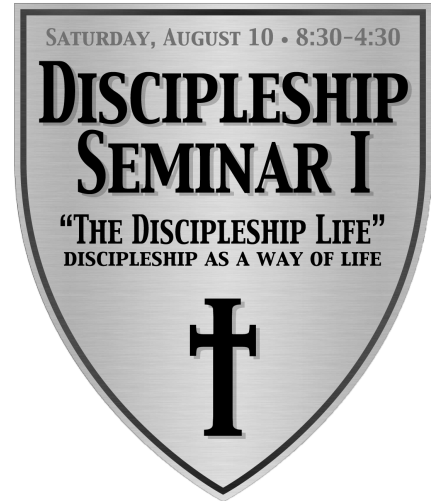
2. DEVELOPING A

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY

PAUL COMMANDED TIMOTHY TO COMMIT THE TEACHING HE HAD RECEIVED FROM THE APOSTLE TO FAITHFUL MEN WHO WILL TEACH OTHERS ALSO. PAUL LAYS OUT FOUR GENERATIONS OF

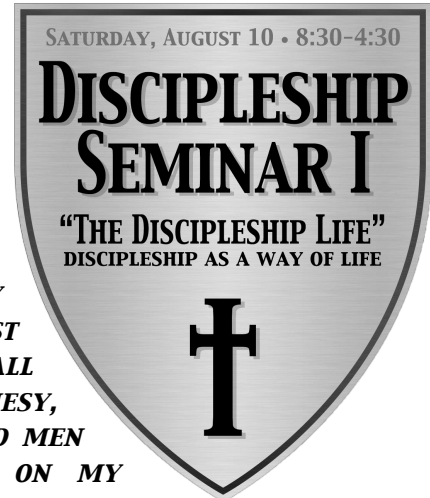
DISCIPLES: PAUL, TIMOTHY, FAITHFUL MEN, AND OTHERS. REACHING THE WORLD IS DONE ONE DISCIPLE AT A TIME. THEY ARE TO BE TRAINED IN THE WORD OF GOD AND GIVEN A VISION TO MAKE DISCIPLES. IN COLLEGE MINISTRY, THIS IS A CORE BUILDING BLOCK FOR EFFECTIVENESS. THE DISCIPLE MUST BE CHALLENGED TO SEE THAT GOD WANTS TO USE HIM OR HER TO IMPACT BOTH THE WORLD AND THE GENERATIONS TO COME THROUGH DISCIPLESHIP.

SESSION 2:
HOW TO LIVE THE CHRISTIAN LIFE



SESSION 3: ***THE OUTPOURING OF THE SPIRIT***

"BUT PETER, STANDING UP WITH THE ELEVEN, LIFTED UP HIS VOICE, AND SAID UNTO THEM, YE MEN OF JUDAEA, AND ALL YE THAT DWELL AT JERUSALEM, BE THIS KNOWN UNTO YOU, AND HEarken TO MY WORDS: FOR THESE ARE NOT DRUNKEN, AS YE SUPPOSE, SEEING IT IS BUT THE THIRD HOUR OF THE DAY. BUT THIS IS THAT WHICH WAS SPOKEN BY THE PROPHET JOEL; AND IT SHALL COME TO PASS IN THE LAST DAYS, SAITH GOD, I WILL POUR OUT OF MY SPIRIT UPON ALL FLESH: AND YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHECY, AND YOUR YOUNG MEN SHALL SEE VISIONS, AND YOUR OLD MEN SHALL DREAM DREAMS: AND ON MY SERVANTS AND ON MY HANDMAIDENS I WILL POUR OUT IN THOSE DAYS OF MY SPIRIT; AND THEY SHALL PROPHECY: AND I WILL SHEW WONDERS IN HEAVEN ABOVE, AND SIGNS IN THE EARTH BENEATH; BLOOD, AND FIRE, AND VAPOUR OF SMOKE: THE SUN SHALL BE TURNED INTO DARKNESS, AND THE MOON INTO BLOOD, BEFORE THAT GREAT AND NOTABLE DAY OF THE LORD COME: AND IT SHALL COME TO PASS, THAT WHOSOEVER SHALL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED." (ACTS 2:14-21)



IN MIGHTY POWER, THE HOLY SPIRIT CAME ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST AS THE LORD JESUS HAD PROMISED. (LUKE 24:49; ACTS 1:8) ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY DISCIPLES HAD BEEN WAITING FOR THIS EFFUSION OF POWER FOR TEN DAYS WHILE PRAYING EARNESTLY IN FAITH THAT GOD WOULD FULFILL HIS PROMISE MADE TO THEM. SUDDENLY, WITH THE SOUND OF A RUSHING, MIGHTY WIND, THE SPIRIT DESCENDED UPON EACH OF THESE HUMBLE BELIEVERS. THE PLACE WHERE THEY PRAYED WAS FILLED WITH THE GLORY OF GOD'S PRESENCE. THE SPIRIT MANIFESTED HIMSELF IN THE LIFE OF EACH INDIVIDUAL SAINT WITH THE APPEARANCE OF A TONGUE OF FIRE SITTING UPON EACH HEAD. MANY OF THESE DISCIPLES WENT OUT INTO THE COMMUNITY AND SPOKE IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE THAT WAS NOT THEIR OWN AS AN EVIDENTIAL SIGN OF THE MIRACULOUS WORKING OF GOD. MULTITUDES OF JEWS FROM ALL OVER THE DIASPORA HAD GATHERED IN JERUSALEM FOR THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL CELEBRATING THE BEGINNING OF THE BARLEY HARVEST AND THE TRADITIONAL DAY ON WHICH GOD GAVE THE LAW TO MOSES ON MT. SINAI.

AS THESE GALILEAN BELIEVERS SUPERNATURALLY SPOKE OF THE WONDERFUL WORKS OF GOD IN A LANGUAGE THEY HAD NEVER LEARNED, THE VISITING PILGRIMS WERE AMAZED AND PERPLEXED. WHAT COULD ALL THIS MEAN? SOME ACTUALLY MOCKED AS IF THESE MEN WERE DRUNK! BUT, PETER SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT BY DECLARING THIS ENTIRE EVENT WAS A FULFILLMENT OF AN OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY GIVEN TO THE PROPHET JOEL. (JOEL 2:28-32) PETER CALLED IT THE OUTPOURING OF THE SPIRIT.

WHAT IS THE _____ OF THE SPIRIT?

IT WAS THE GIVING OF THE SPIRIT TO EACH BELIEVER ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST RESULTING IN TWO DYNAMIC EFFECTS.

FIRST, THE DISCIPLES WERE SUPERNATURALLY EMPOWERED FOR THE WITNESS OF THE GOSPEL. *"AND, BEHOLD, I SEND THE PROMISE OF MY FATHER UPON YOU: BUT TARRY YE IN THE CITY OF JERUSALEM, UNTIL YE BE ENDUED WITH POWER FROM ON HIGH."* (LUKE 24:49) THEY WERE ENABLED TO DECLARE THE TRUTH OF THE GOSPEL PROPHETICALLY: *"...I WILL POUR OUT OF MY SPIRIT UPON ALL FLESH: AND YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHECY..."*

SECONDLY, THE SPIRIT WORKED EFFECTIVELY TO BRING SINNERS TO SALVATION. *"NOT BY WORKS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS WHICH WE HAVE DONE, BUT ACCORDING TO HIS MERCY HE SAVED US, BY THE WASHING OF REGENERATION, AND RENEWING OF THE HOLY GHOST; WHICH HE SHED ON US ABUNDANTLY THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR SAVIOUR..."* TITUS 3:5-6. THE RESULT OF THIS OUTPOURING WAS OF SUCH EFFECT THAT SINNERS RESPONDED BY CALLING UPON THE NAME OF THE LORD TO BE SAVED!

IS THE OUTPOURING OF THE SPIRIT SOMETHING THAT WE SHOULD HOPE FOR IN OUR _____ DAY?

IN ORDER TO PROPERLY EVALUATE THIS DAY, WE NEED GO BACK AND ASK: WHAT WAS HAPPENING ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST?

TEN DAYS PRIOR TO PENTECOST JESUS HAD ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN FROM THE MOUNT OF OLIVES. THIS SUPERNATURAL EVENT BROUGHT HIM INTO THE VERY THRONE ROOM OF GOD. ON THIS DAY, JESUS ENTERED INTO THE PRESENCE OF HIS FATHER AND WAS INAUGURATED AS LORD IN FULFILLMENT OF PSALM 110:1: "THE LORD SAID UNTO MY LORD, SIT THOU AT MY RIGHT HAND, UNTIL I MAKE THINE ENEMIES THY FOOTSTOOL." PETER'S SERMON IN ACTS 2 DECLARED THE RESULT OF HIS ASCENSION. "THEREFORE BEING EXALTED TO THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD, AND HAVING RECEIVED FROM THE FATHER THE PROMISE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, HE POURED OUT THIS WHICH YOU NOW SEE AND HEAR." (ACTS 2:33) CHRIST HAD ALREADY PROMISED THE COMING OF THE SPIRIT TO HIS DISCIPLES PRIOR TO HIS CRUCIFIXION. "NEVERTHELESS I TELL YOU THE TRUTH; IT IS EXPEDIENT FOR YOU THAT I GO AWAY: FOR IF I GO NOT AWAY, THE COMFORTER WILL NOT COME UNTO YOU; BUT IF I DEPART, I WILL SEND HIM UNTO YOU." (JOHN 16:7). SO, THE DAY OF PENTECOST WAS THE FULFILLMENT OF THIS PROMISE OF THE SPIRIT. IT WAS CLEARLY THE BEGINNING OF THE NEW AGE OF THE GOSPEL OF GRACE MARKED BY THE PRESENCE AND OPERATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE LIFE OF EVERY BELIEVER.

THE OUTPOURING AND PLENTIFUL COMMUNICATIONS OF THE SPIRIT HAVE DIRECT RESPECT UNTO THE TIMES OF THE GOSPEL...ALTHOUGH GOD GAVE HIS SPIRIT IN SOME MEASURE BEFORE, YET HE POURED HIM NOT OUT UNTIL HE [CHRIST] WAS FIRST ANOINTED WITH HIS FULLNESS. - JOHN OWEN

WAS THE DAY OF PENTECOST _____ ?

WAS PENTECOST JUST ANOTHER ORDINARY DAY IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH? CONSIDER THE RESULT OF WHAT HAPPENED: "THEN THEY THAT GLADLY RECEIVED HIS WORD WERE BAPTIZED: AND THE SAME DAY THERE WERE ADDED *UNTO THEM* ABOUT THREE THOUSAND SOULS." (ACTS 2:41) WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU WERE IN AN EVANGELISTIC MEETING WHEN 3,000 PEOPLE WERE CONVERTED IN A DAY? THIS WAS OBVIOUSLY AN EXTRAORDINARY TIME IN CHURCH HISTORY!

HOWEVER, IT IS IMPORTANT TO RECOGNIZE THAT THOUGH THE EFFECTS OF THAT DAY WERE EXTRAORDINARY THE MEANS BY WHICH GOD WORKS WAS ACTUALLY HIS ORDINARY WAY OF WORKING. IN OTHER WORDS, GOD'S WORK IS GOING TO BE CONSISTENTLY THE SAME THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH AGE. HE WORKS BY HIS SPIRIT THROUGH HIS WORD. "FOR THE PREACHING OF THE CROSS IS TO THEM THAT PERISH FOOLISHNESS; BUT UNTO US WHICH ARE SAVED IT IS THE POWER OF GOD." (1 CORINTHIANS 1:19) THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL IN THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT IS THE WAY IN WHICH GOD BRINGS ABOUT THE CONVERSION OF SINNERS. THE MANNER OR THE WAY IN WHICH HE WORKS IS ALWAYS THE SAME. HOWEVER, THERE IS A DIFFERENCE IN THE MEASURE OR THE DEGREE TO WHICH GOD WORKS. THIS CAN BE EASILY UNDERSTOOD THROUGH THE METAPHOR OF THE WIND. THE ROOT WORD FOR SPIRIT AND WIND IN THE GREEK LANGUAGE IS THE SAME. THE NATURE OF WIND NEVER CHANGES ALTHOUGH THE DEGREE OF ITS FORCE MAY AND DOES VARY. THINK OF THE DIFFERENT DEGREES OF WIND: A GENTLE BREEZE, A STRONG GUST, A GALE, OR A HURRICANE. THE DIFFERENCE ONLY LIES IN ITS EFFECT NOT ITS NATURE. THE SAME IS TRUE IN GOSPEL PREACHING. THE MEANS BY WHICH GOD'S SPIRIT WORKS IS THROUGH GOSPEL PREACHING. HOWEVER, THE EFFECTS OR THE RESULTS OF THE MESSAGE DOES VARY. THIS IS ALL DETERMINED BY THE SOVEREIGN CHOICE OF GOD. HE CHOOSES THE DEGREE AND THE MEASURE IN WHICH THE SPIRIT IS POURED OUT.

HIS SPIRIT IS GIVEN TO ALL BUT HIS WORKING IS NOT IN ALL PERSONS, NOR AT ALL TIMES, IN THE SAME MEASURE. - IAN MURRAY

SO, THE COMING OF THE SPIRIT AT PENTECOST ESTABLISHED THE NORMAL WAY IN WHICH THE WORK OF CONVERSION AND SANCTIFICATION ARE ACCOMPLISHED. HOWEVER, THE DEGREE IN WHICH THE SPIRIT WORKED AT PENTECOST WAS EXTRAORDINARY AND NOT CONTINUOUS.

IS THIS WORK ? CAN WE HOPE FOR A LARGER MEASURE OF THE OUTPOURING OF THE SPIRIT IN OUR OWN DAY?

WHEN THE SPIRIT WAS POURED OUT ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST IN UNUSUAL POWER, DID THE DISCIPLES EVER EXPECT THIS OUTPOURING TO OCCUR AGAIN? WOULD THERE EVER BE A FURTHER GIVING OF WHAT THEY ALREADY POSSESSED? THE BOOK OF ACTS TELLS US THAT THE BELIEVERS WERE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT; "AND THEY WERE ALL FILLED WITH THE HOLY GHOST..." THIS EVENT WAS ALSO REPEATED IN ACTS 4:31: "AND WHEN THEY HAD PRAYED, THE PLACE WAS SHAKEN WHERE THEY WERE ASSEMBLED TOGETHER; AND THEY WERE ALL FILLED WITH THE HOLY GHOST, AND THEY SPAKE THE WORD OF GOD WITH BOLDNESS." IT SHOULD BE VERY CLEAR THAT THIS WAS A REPEATABLE EVENT!

WAS THE GIVING OF THE SPIRIT AT PENTECOST THE OF THE GIVING OF HIMSELF?

CAN THERE BE GIVEN MORE OF HIS GIFTS AND GRACE? PETER SAID IN ACTS 2:17; "I WILL POUR OUT OF MY SPIRIT." THE PARTICLE "OF" (APO) REFERS TO THE SEPARATION OF THE PART FROM THE WHOLE; FROM A WHOLE SOME PART IS TAKEN. THIS DISTINGUISHES BETWEEN WHAT IS MEASURED TO MEN AND THE INEXHAUSTIBLE FULLNESS OF THE RESOURCE. FOR EXAMPLE, OBSERVE PAUL'S PRAYER FOR THE EPHESIAN BELIEVERS, "TO BE STRENGTHENED WITH MIGHT BY THE SPIRIT ON THE INNER MAN...THAT HE MIGHT BE FILLED WITH ALL THE FULLNESS OF GOD." (EPH. 3:16,19) IS THERE NOT MORE OF THE SPIRIT'S BLESSINGS AVAILABLE FOR HIS PEOPLE? DO WE NOT SENSE OUR OWN NEED OF MORE POWER FROM GOD IN

PREACHING AND HIS WORKING IN THE HEARTS OF UNBELIEVERS? DID NOT PAUL DESIRE THE "SUPPLY OF THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST" (PHIL. 1:19)? IN LUKE 11:13, WE ARE TAUGHT TO PRAY FOR MORE OF THE SPIRIT. WHAT RELEVANCE DOES THIS HAVE UNLESS THERE IS ALWAYS MORE TO BE RECEIVED?

NO MORE MISCHIEVOUS AND MISLEADING THEORY COULD BE PROPOUNDED, NOR ANY MORE DISHONORING TO THE HOLY SPIRIT, THAN THE PRINCIPLE THAT BECAUSE THE SPIRIT WAS POURED OUT AT PENTECOST THE CHURCH HAS NO NEED, AND NO WARRANT, TO PRAY FOR EFFUSIONS OF THE SPIRIT OF GOD. ON THE CONTRARY, THE MORE THE CHURCH ASKS FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT AND WAITS FOR HIS COMMUNICATIONS, THE MORE SHE RECEIVES. - GEORGE SMEATON, DOCTRINE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

IS THERE ANY EVIDENCE OF THIS OUTPOURING IN CHURCH HISTORY?

HISTORICALLY, THE OUTPOURING OF THE SPIRIT HAS BEEN VIEWED AS A REVIVAL!

THOUGH THERE BE A MORE CONSTANT INFLUENCE OF THE SPIRIT ATTENDING THE ORDINANCES, YET THE WAY IN WHICH THE GREATER THINGS HAVE BEEN DONE HAS BEEN BY REMARKABLE EFFUSIONS, AT SPECIAL SEASON OF MERCY. - JONATHAN EDWARDS

GOD GAVE HIS SPIRIT TO SIMPLE MEN IN GREAT ABUNDANCE. - JOHN KNOX

A REVIVAL IS AN OUTPOURING OF THE SPIRIT, BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE INTERCESSION OF CHRIST, RESULTING IN A NEW DEGREE OF LIFE IN THE CHURCHES AND A WIDESPREAD MOVEMENT OF GRACE AMONG THE UNCONVERTED. IT IS AN EXTRAORDINARY COMMUNICATION OF THE SPIRIT OF GOD, A SUPERABUNDANCE OF THE SPIRIT'S OPERATIONS, AN ENLARGEMENT OF HIS MANIFEST POWER. - IAN MURRAY

THERE IS IN A WORK OF GRACE TRANSPIRING DURING AN ESPECIAL OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, A DEEPER IMPRESSION OF THE SPIRIT UPON THE HEART, A CLEARER AND MORE MANIFEST SENSE OF PARDON AND ACCEPTANCE, THAN IN NORMAL CONVERSIONS OF ORDINARY TIMES. NOR IS THIS DIFFICULT TO ACCOUNT FOR. THERE IS A GREATER AND RICHER MANIFESTATION OF THE SPIRIT. THIS IS THE GRAND SECRET. HE GIVES MORE OF HIMSELF. - CHARLES SIMEON

CONSIDER THIS THOUGHT: IF A PASTOR DURING THE COURSE OF A YEAR WOULD SEE 15-20 PEOPLE SAVED THROUGH HIS PREACHING MINISTRY, WOULD HE NOT UNDERSTAND THIS AS THE NORMAL WORK OF GOD'S SPIRIT? HOWEVER, IF IN A TWO-MONTH PERIOD THERE WOULD BE 80-100 CONVERSIONS, HOW WOULD WE DESCRIBE THIS? IT WOULD HISTORICALLY BE CALLED AN AWAKENING OF A GREATER NUMBER OF SINNERS. HISTORICALLY, A REVIVAL IS VIEWED AS DIFFERING ONLY IN DEGREE OR MEASURE OF THE SPIRIT'S WORKING NOT IN KIND. A REVIVAL IS SIMPLY A LARGER GIVING OF THE SPIRIT.

I FIND IT QUITE UNBELIEVABLE HOW FEW MEN REALLY BELIEVE IN THE OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. DO WE HAVE A WEAK VIEW OF PENTECOST? IS IT BECAUSE WE HAVE LOOKED AT IT ONLY AS A ONE-TIME-NEVER-TO-OCCUR-AGAIN EVENT? DOES NOT OUR HEARTS CRY OUT FOR THE MIGHTY HAND OF GOD IN OUR OWN DAY? DO WE REALLY THINK THAT OUR WORK IS GOING TO STEM THE CURRENT TIDE OF POSTMODERNISM, UNBELIEF, AND UNGODLINESS IN OUR OWN DAY? HAVE WE BEEN DECEIVED BY TRUSTING IN OUR OWN INTELLECT AND INGENUITY TO

BUILD THE MINISTRY AND NOT GOD? WHEN MAN WORKS, MAN WORKS. WHEN MAN PRAYS, GOD WORKS. WHICH WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE?

WHAT SHALL WE THEN _____ AS BELIEVERS?

WE MUST ASK OURSELVES THE FOLLOWING RELEVANT QUESTIONS:

- 1. DOES OUR OBEDIENCE IN THE USE OF MEANS PRODUCE REVIVALS? DOES OUR ACTIVITY CONTROL THE EFFECTS IN REVIVAL? IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ONE AND THE OTHER SIMPLY ONE OF CAUSE AND EFFECT?**
- 2. HAS THE GOD WHO ORDAINED THE ENDS (SALVATION) NOT ORDAINED THE MEANS (PREACHING)?**

THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN AN EFFECTUAL CALL TO SALVATION HAVE TO BELIEVE IN A SPECIAL OUTPOURING OF THE SPIRIT ON THE INDIVIDUAL SINNER IN ORDER FOR THEM TO BE SAVED. HOW IS THE BLESSING TRANSMITTED? BY THE PREACHING OF THE GOSPEL.

“AND MY SPEECH AND MY PREACHING WAS NOT WITH ENTICING WORDS OF MAN’S WISDOM, BUT IN DEMONSTRATION OF THE SPIRIT AND OF POWER:” 1 CORINTHIANS 2:4

“KNOWING, BRETHREN BELOVED, YOUR ELECTION OF GOD. FOR OUR GOSPEL CAME NOT UNTO YOU IN WORD ONLY, BUT ALSO IN POWER, AND IN THE HOLY GHOST, AND IN MUCH ASSURANCE; AS YE KNOW WHAT MANNER OF MEN WE WERE AMONG YOU FOR YOUR SAKE.” 1 THESSALONIANS 1:5-6

“IT IS THE SPIRIT THAT QUICKENETH, THE FLESH PROFITETH NOTHING.” JOHN 6:63

- 3. DOES DIVINE SOVEREIGNTY EVER JUSTIFY HUMAN INACTION? HOW DO WE BALANCE OUT THE USE OF MEANS AND GOD’S SOVEREIGN CHOICES?**

WHAT SHALL WE THEN DO?

FIRST OF ALL, WE SHOULD REJOICE OVER ANYONE WHO IS SAVED. IT IS STILL A MIRACLE OF GRACE! WE SHOULD NOT DESPISE THE NORMAL WORK OF THE SPIRIT BECAUSE WE DO NOT SEE THE EXTRAORDINARY. THIS IS A RECIPE FOR DISCOURAGEMENT. THE NORM FOR THE CHURCH AGE IS OBEDIENCE AND WALKING IN THE SPIRIT. HOWEVER SHOULD WE NOT LONG FOR AND SEEK AFTER THE OUTPOURING OF THE SPIRIT?

IT IS RIDICULOUS FOR A MAN TO SAY THAT HE WILL DO NOTHING, BECAUSE THE SPIRIT OF GOD DOTHS ALL; FOR WHERE HE DOTHS NOTHING, THE SPIRIT OF GOD DOTHS NOTHING UNLESS IT BE MERELY IN THE INFUSION OF THE FIRST HABIT OR PRINCIPLE OF GRACE. JOHN OWEN

SECONDLY, WE MUST DO WHAT THE DISCIPLES DID IN THAT UPPER ROOM DURING THE TEN-DAY INTERVAL BETWEEN CHRIST’S ASCENSION INTO HEAVEN AND THE DAY OF PENTECOST?

“THESE ALL CONTINUED WITH ONE ACCORD IN PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION, WITH THE WOMEN, AND MARY THE MOTHER OF JESUS, AND WITH HIS BRETHREN.” (ACTS 1:14)

WHAT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE REQUEST OF THEIR SUPPLICATIONS? WOULD IT NOT HAVE BEEN FOR SOMETHING SPECIFIC? THEY WERE PRAYING FOR CHRIST TO GIVE WHAT HE HAD PROMISED. ***“BUT YE SHALL RECEIVE POWER, AFTER THAT THE HOLY GHOST IS COME UPON YOU...”*** (ACTS 1:8) THIS IS THE ESSENCE OF PRAYER—ASKING GOD TO DO WHAT HE HAS PROMISED!

ON DECEMBER 16TH, 1959, AT THE AGE OF 59, D. MARTIN-LLOYD JONES ADDRESSED THE PURITAN AND WESTMINSTER CONFERENCE ON THE SUBJECT: ***REVIVAL: A HISTORICAL AND THEOLOGICAL SURVEY.***

IN HIS APPEAL TO PRAY FOR REVIVAL, HE QUOTES GEORGE SMEATON:

AS TO THE PECULIAR MODE OF PRAYING, WE MAY SAY THAT IN EVERY SEASON OF GENERAL AWAKENING THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY WAITS JUST AS THEY WAITED FOR THE EFFUSION OF THE SPIRIT, WITH ONE ACCORD IN PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION IN THE INTERVAL BETWEEN THE ASCENSION AND PENTECOST. NO OTHER COURSE HAS BEEN PRESCRIBED; AND THE CHURCH OF THE PRESENT HAS ALL THE WARRANT SHE EVER HAD TO WAIT, EXPECT, AND PRAY.

CONCLUSION: “THERE SHALL BE SHOWERS OF BLESSING THIS IS THE PROMISE OF GOD, THERE SHALL BE SEASONS REFRESHING SENT FROM THE SAVIOR ABOVE, SHOWERS OF BLESSING, SHOWERS OF BLESSINGS WE PLEAD, MERCY DROPS ROUND US ARE FALLING, BUT FOR THE SHOWERS WE PLEAD.”

WORKSHOP AND Q&A PANEL:
NOTES

