

A Relevant Church - Living, Preaching, Praying

READ

*'And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God,
That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh;
Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
Your young men shall see visions,
Your old men shall dream dreams.
18 And on My menservants and on My maidservants
I will pour out My Spirit in those days;
And they shall prophesy.*

Some will tell you that this is the most difficult time to be alive, so many are even scared to have children. But we are in the greatest shift in human history, unrivaled by any other time....

*Slide 1 1 Peter 1:10 Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of **the grace** that would come **to you**, 11 searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. 12 To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which **now** have been reported to you through those who have preached **the gospel** to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven— things which angels desire to look into.*

Slide 2 Luke 12:49 "I came to send fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!"

Slide 3. The relevancy of the modern church is contingent on the baptism of the Holy Spirit. There is no man made religion, practice, program, or protocols that can be set in play to produce the fruit that only comes from a genuine relationship with Jesus.

*Slide 4 **LIVING:** My Family, My Neighborhood, My City, My Nation, My World*

Acts 1:8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Note: When a person gets baptized by the Holy Spirit the first change will begin in the home.

READ (Let them see this is last promise of the OT) Malachi 4:6 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord: 6 And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

Slide 5

a. The affect on the children

Stats:

- According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 18.4 million children, 1 in 4, live without a biological, step, or adoptive father in the home.*
- 63 percent — of youth suicides involve fatherless homes, a rate five times the national average
- Of the in state-operated institutions (prisons, jails and youth homes), 70 percent of youth come from fatherless homes
- Of youth in prison, 85 percent come from fatherless homes
- daughters without fathers are 92 percent more likely to get divorced thefrimformen.com

Ex. Loving my daughter even when she push me away, because that's what I did to Jesus.

- I don't have kids? But your parents did! Loving our parents - How has the Holy Spirit changed the dynamics of your relationship?

b. The affect on the marriage

Slide 6 1 Corinthians 7 "If any brother has a wife who does not believe, and she is willing to live with him, let him not divorce her. 13 And a woman who has a husband who does not believe, if he is willing to live with her, let her not divorce him. 14 For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband; otherwise your children would be unclean, but now they are holy. 15 But if the unbeliever departs, let him depart; a brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases. But God has called us to peace. 16 For how do you know, O wife, whether you will save your husband? Or how do you know, O husband, whether you will save your wife?"

Ex. Someone asked me for advice after 19 years of marriage. A relationship with Jesus. - Mercy

Slide 7 **PREACHING**

"Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy" - NOT JUST THE PREACHER....ALL OF US.

Definition: to speak under a divine influence

Slide 8

a. The Holy Spirit leads us to those we should speak to. At our job, marketplace, or travel.

PD mentioned how some say that our society makes it so hard to share the Gospel with others, but if the first century church flourished under even harder conditions, then we can flourish.

Acts 8:4 Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word.

Acts 8 Phillip & the Ethiopian

Note: They saw every circumstance as an opportunity to share their faith. New job transfer?

New employee? Someone smile at you a little longer? Ex. guy at gym

Acts 1:8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

b. Holy Spirit gives us the Words to speak

Pauls prayer and Jesus promise. A relevant word in season

Ex. How many times have we said Pastor was speaking directly to me.

c. The Holy Spirit bears witness to the truth we speak

We are relevant, even to the world, because the Holy Spirit is actually convicting them of unbelief Ex. of girl in the tunnels

Slide 9: WHEN YOU SHARE YOUR FAITH, THE FRUIT OF YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS BECOMES RELEVANT TO THE WORLD, BECAUSE THE PURPOSE OF YOUR SALVATION IS FULFILLED.

Psalm 51:13 Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, And uphold me by Your generous Spirit. 13 Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, And sinners shall be converted to You.

Slide 10: PRAYING

a.

- Praying to be a better father or mother.
- Praying to be a better spouse. Ex. of...
- Praying to be loving to our parents

b. Praying to be used of God

God lead me

Psalm 37:23, "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way."

God give me the words to speak - Paul prayed

Acts 4:29 grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word

THEN... 31 Acts and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

God please bear witness to their heart - send someone else

Slide 11: John 15:6 *If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. 7 **If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.** 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.*

*Close: IT'S SO HARD BEING A CHRISTIAN.... IT AIN'T HARD? IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
A tree doesn't bear fruit by trying harder. It bears fruit by abiding and staying rooted.*