Experience Community this Summer with us!









HOLY SPIRIT WEEK 7 BE ONE OF THE ONES WHO DID MATTHEW 25:14-30

God blesses persistence.

There's a difference between those that did and those that didn't—those that took the opportunity before them and those who said no. For instance, take Nolan Bushnell. Nolan was offered a huge stake in a small, unknown startup company called Apple. All he had to do was invest \$50k, which would have been easy for him. Nolan didn't view the risk as worthwhile. Too bad for him because his \$50k investment would have been worth \$480 billion today. If he only knew then! Or think about Peter and the other disciples on the boat. Peter was willing to step out onto the water while the others maintained their perceived place of safety. Or the fifty prophets that lived in proximity to Elijah. Yet, only the one who followed closely (Elisha) received the double portion. And, finally, Moses. He said no three times before he said yes. Think of how different the world would be today if his "no" prevailed. God has the best version of your life waiting. But experiencing God's best version won't happen without possessing all the gifts He has given you. We say yes to gifts like Jesus, prayer, salvation, and the Holy Spirit. We also need to say yes to the spiritual gifts. You don't get to His best version of your life unless you possess all His gifts.

(5 min) OPENING PRAYER

As a Life Group, invite the Holy Spirit into your time. Ask God to bring to mind what you have learned about the Holy Spirit and spiritual gifts over these studies. Ask Him to stir your heart with strength to be obedient and faithful.

(10-20 min) TIME TO CONSIDER

As you've had the opportunity to reflect on what God has spoken to you through this week's lesson, consider these questions as a group and discuss them.

1. Have someone or a few people, read Matthew 25:14-30 out loud to the group. Spend time discussing the key points of these verses as they connect with the use of your spiritual gifts. Based on your discussion, which servant in the parable do you most identify with and why?

2. Concerning spiritual gifts, are you living the best version of God's plan for your life right now? Why or why not? What steps can you take to move closer to God's best version of your life? How will you accomplish that?

3. Have you encountered obstacles or adversity in the use of your gifts? Has that sidelined you? Encourage one another to be persistent in your gifts because of your love for Jesus. How can you be a better support to one another? Discuss.

WEEKLY MEMORIZATION VERSES:

Psalm 37:3 "Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart."

(20 min) EXPERIENCING THE SPIRIT TOGETHER: As a Life Group, take the next 15-20 minutes to pray and enter into a time of encountering the Holy Spirit. Remove distractions as best you can, and start by acknowledging the presence of God's Holy Spirit among you. Stir the spiritual gifts that are among you. In this final study on spiritual gifts, ask God to show you how your life can be consecrated in love to Him to a greater degree. Be open to sharing the things God puts on your hearts with one another.

(5 min) LIVE IT

Based on the study, be intentional, courageous, and filled with faith as you move forward with God. Don't end this study without taking one concrete step of faith to exercise a spiritual gift or what you think may be a spiritual gift. Remember, the outcome belongs to God when you step out in faith.