

Bay City Wesleyan Church
June 10, 2018

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Sunday Morning 06-03-2018 (2)

Jesus promised, "You will bear fruit, lots of fruit, lasting fruit." John 15:5

Let's pray at 1:55 PM daily to see Jesus producing fruit in and through us.

<http://bible.com/events/427260>

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[Image]

Claiming the promise in 2018

<https://imageproxy-cdn.youversionapi.com/152x152/https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/mushroom-event-images-prod/5722009-1514675144006.jpg>

The Promise:

If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. (John 15:5)

Genesis 2:4-7 NIV

4</small> This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, when the Lord God made the earth and the heavens. 5</small> Now no shrub had yet appeared on the earth and no plant had yet sprung up, for the Lord God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no one to work the ground, 6</small> but streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground. 7</small> Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

<https://bible.com/bible/111/gen.2.4-7.NIV>

Psalms 8:1-4 NIV

1</small> Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory in the heavens. 2</small> Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger. 3</small> When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, 4</small> what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?

<https://bible.com/bible/111/psa.8.1-4.NIV>

John 20:19-22 NIV

19</small> On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" 20</small> After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. 21</small> Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

22</small> And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit."
<https://bible.com/bible/111/jhn.20.19-22.NIV>

SERIES REVIEW

You picked a great time to be with us. This is the final instalment in our series of teachings about God's Holy Spirit. But like all great endings this study can launch a new beginning for us.

The big idea for our series is that we need the Holy Spirit desperately. Here's the breakdown on that idea:

One: We need the Holy Spirit to work in us, so we can experience the blessings of God's kingdom here and now.

Two: The Spirit in us is better than Jesus beside us.

Three: Holy Spirit plans on doing great, loving, wonderful things for, in, and through you.

Four: There's more to this world than meets the eye. There's a spiritual dimension with a raging war going on around us. In the spiritual battles of life, to win like Jesus, we must fight like Jesus.

Five: We will receive the Holy Spirit when we welcome Jesus as our King.

1. The Church is growing slowest in Europe and North America
2. The Church is growing dramatically in the rest of the world

Why over there and not here?

Why not everywhere?

Why them and not us?

Why not all of us?

Why there and not here? Why them and not us? Why are most of the churches in North America plateaued or declining when the early church grew rapidly and churches in other parts of the world grow rapidly now?

Romans 15:14-19 NLT

14</small> I am fully convinced, my dear brothers and sisters, that you are full of goodness. You know these things so well you can teach each other all about them. 15</small> Even so, I have been bold enough to write about some of these points, knowing that all you need is this reminder. For by God's grace, 16</small>

I am a special messenger from Christ Jesus to you Gentiles. I bring you the Good News so that I might present you as an acceptable offering to God, made holy by the Holy Spirit.

17</small> So I have reason to be enthusiastic about all Christ Jesus has done through me in my service to God. 18</small> Yet I dare not boast about anything except what Christ has done through me, bringing the Gentiles to God by my message and by the way I worked among them.

19</small> They were convinced by the power of miraculous signs and wonders and by the power of God's Spirit. In this way, I have fully presented the Good News of Christ from Jerusalem all the way to Illyricum.

<https://bible.com/bible/116/rom.15.14-19.nlt>

Sermon in a Sentence

We are powerless promises until the Holy Spirit works in and through us.

We have excuses but refusing to change directions (to repent) will not cover our self-sufficient arrogance. We are helpless without the Holy Spirit. To think or to act otherwise is foolish conceit. We need to recognize our pride for the rebellious sin that it is and humbly plead to become fully dependent on the Holy Spirit.