

Bay City Wesleyan Church
July 7, 2019

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Sunday Morning 07-07-2019

SUMMER TEACHING SERIES (June 2-August 13)

Learning to be Witnesses: Embracing Your Fears with Faith

Why do you get out of bed each day? What's your purpose? Why do you think God put you in this place and time? How much peace, love, joy, and hope do you want to experience? Ask the Holy Spirit to help you embrace your fears with faith as you learn to be one of Jesus's witnesses.

<http://bible.com/events/649464>

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[Image]

Learning to be Witnesses: Embracing Your Fears with Faith

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Summer Series

Learning to be Witnesses: Embracing Your Fears with Faith

How much peace, love, joy, and hope do you want to experience? Ask the Holy Spirit to help you embrace your fears with faith as you learn to be one of Jesus's witnesses.

We suffer from a driving force that one spiritual mother referred to as, "a blasphemous anxiety to do God's work for Him."

There's a big problem, though, with the Acts of the Apostles. The book isn't about that. The book is about the Acts of the Holy Spirit.

Citation: The Big Problem with the Book of Acts and the Big Solution, JD Walt, The Seedbed Daily Text, 06-16-2019, <https://www.seedbed.com/how-the-book-of-acts-should-have-been-titled/>

Acts 2:42-47 NIV

42</small> They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43</small> Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44</small> All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45</small> They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 46</small> Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47</small> praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

<https://bible.com/bible/111/act.2.42-47.NIV>

What can happen in a congregation that focuses on responding to Holy Spirit with obedience?

Sermon in a Sentence:

Anything can happen in a congregation that responds to Holy Spirit.

The church is the people of God saved by the power of God for the purposes of God.

[The church] is all the people of God on an everyday mission to fill everything in every way with the fullness of Jesus.

Citation: From More Effort to More Jesus, Todd Wilson & Rob Wegner, EXPONENTIAL <https://exponential.org/more-effort-to-more-jesus/>

Why don't all congregations and every Christian devote themselves to responding to Holy Spirit in obedience?

Responding to Holy Spirit's leading costs us what we think is control.

Responding to Holy Spirit's guidance calls for us to surrender our sense of security.

Responding to Holy Spirit's directions requires us to admit our helplessness.

Responding to Holy Spirit's commands demands the end of our independence.

[Image]

AT THE CROSS...

<https://imageproxy-cdn.youversionapi.com/320x320/https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/mushroom-event-images-prod/5722009-1562450703437.jpg>

The Holy Spirit brings the blessings of God's Kingdom through congregations that respond to him with obedience. Are we ready, willing, and able to become that kind of congregation?