Lifegroup Study (AM) – 27th May 2018

**Holy Spirit Series: Part 4 – In Step With The Holy Spirit**

**INTRODUCTION**

God calls us to keep in step with the Spirit (Galatians 5:25). This means many things. First, to keep in step with Him we must be able to discern His voice, and to be able to disregard voices that claim to be from the Holy Spirit but are not. Second, pursuing holiness – living out in our experience the holy identity that already belongs to those in Christ. Third, having our eyes open to see what He is doing in and around us so we can participate in it through agreement.

**KEY POINTS & KEY SCRIPTURES**

1. Grow in discerning the work of the Holy Spirit. *“Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.” (1 John 4:1; see also 1 Thess 5:19-22)*

Key content: we test the spirits through the 6 CSs:

* Commanding Scripture (Luke 4:1-13)
* Counsel of the Saints (Proverbs 24:6)
* Character of the Son
* Common Sense
* Compelling Spirit (presence/absence of inner peace)
* Circumstantial Signs

1. When we invite the Holy Spirit into our lives, he shows us the sin lurking within us for what it really is, leads us to turn away from it through repentance, and enables us to walk in new godly behaviour. By listening and obeying the Holy Spirit, He makes us holy – more like Jesus.

***5*** *So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don’t be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world.* ***10****Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him. (Colossians 3)*

1. We don’t bring the Holy Spirit into situations; He is already there. Our job is to discern where He is at work, and then join in. *“Jesus [said]… ‘Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.” (John 5:19)*

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. If you heard the sermon, was there anything God spoke to you about personally from this message?
2. Which of the three points, from each of the speakers, spoke most to you personally? Why?
3. What is your own process of discerning whether or not something – such as a prophetic word, or decision-making around important issues like a job or a relationship – is from God? If God is prompting you to grow in spiritual discernment, how do you plan on doing this?
4. In cooperating with the Holy Spirit as He makes us holy, is there anything specific you need to ‘put off’ out of your life, and/or is there specific from your new nature that you need to ‘put on’?
5. What experience have you had in discerning where the Holy Spirit is at work, and joining in? How are you able to grow in this aspect of ‘keeping in step with the Spirit’?
6. Keeping in step with the spirit applies to us as Jesus’ disciples and also as Jesus’ disciple-makers. Is there anything from this study that you believe you should pass on to someone you are discipling?

**PRAYER POINTS**

* Thanks to God for the gift of His Holy Spirit and for speaking to us personally
* For each individual to have a personal revelation of what these scriptures mean for them.
* For those who have not yet received the Holy Spirit to be baptised
* For us to grow in discernment and wisdom from the Holy Spirit