



STUDY GUIDE

EMPOWERED 02.21.2016

[set up]

Share with your group about the last time you shared the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ with someone. This should not be an "I'm building a relationship" story. When was the last time you actually shared the gospel content with someone and asked them to respond to it?

As you consider being a discipler in 2016, what plans do you have to grow in personal evangelism and train others to do the same?

[digging deeper]

According to 1 Corinthians 12:12-13, who is filled with the Holy Spirit?

In verse 8 Luke tells us that Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit. Why does he need to say this? Didn't we just hear about the filling of the Holy Spirit happening back in Acts 2? Is this another filling of the Spirit or just a reminder about the previous filling?

Follow Acts chapter 4 into the following vignette (vv. 23-31) - when Peter and John are released. They are with Christian brothers and sisters. Read verse 31. Is this another filling?

Read Ephesians 5:17-18. How can Paul instruct the BELIEVERS at Ephesus to be filled with the Spirit if they already are?

Can we come to a biblical conclusion that believers are filled with the Holy Spirit at conversion, but that we need continual filling for boldness in proclamation of the gospel and holy living? Talk about these things in your group - look up other appropriate Scripture.

Read the instructions in 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22. What does it mean to quench the Spirit?

If, like Peter, we need the empowering filling of the Holy Spirit for impactful gospel proclamation and it is also true that we need continual filling from the Holy Spirit (not just a one-and-done experience), HOW does this happen? How are we filled continually with the Spirit?

[living it out]

As you consider your answer to the set up questions and your conclusion from the digging deeper section, what needs to happen in your life for you to be emboldened to proclaim the good news? Are you quenching the Spirit? How do we go about NOT quenching the Spirit?