

## THE SPIRIT AT CHRIST'S BIRTH- Lk 1-2, 12/18/22

### **GETTING OUR FEET WET? The Holy Spirit at Christmas?**

- How many times is the Holy Spirit mentioned in the Christmas story?
- Who is mentioned most in connection with the Holy Spirit?

### The Holy Spirit will fill John the Baptist- 1:11-20

Zechariah's story

Zechariah's understanding of the Spirit

Our understanding of the Spirit

1. WHO the Holy Spirit is
  - Third Person of the Trinity, fully God
  - Advocate, Breath, Comforter, Friend, Helper, Power, Teacher
  - He's like a dove, oil, water, air, wind, cloud, fire, light, river
2. WHAT the Spirit does-
  - As God and for God- creates, inspires Scripture, regenerates, resurrects, witnesses
  - For us- comforts, convicts, empowers, guards, guides, loves us & through us, teaches
3. WHERE the Spirit is- surrounds God's throne, fills the universe, witnesses to the world, makes his home in our heart and meetings as Christians

### The Holy Spirit will overshadow Mary- 1:26-38

### The Holy Spirit fills Elizabeth - 1:39-45

### The Holy Spirit in Mary's Song- 1:46-47 God made us...

- 3 parts- spirit, soul, body- 1 Thes 5:23
- 3 functions- intellect, emotion, will
  - Love God with all heart, mind, soul, strength- Mk 12:30
  - Love others as much as yourself- Mk 12:31

- 3 levels (see John Eldredge, Resilience, ch 8- Going Deep)
  - The shallows- distractions, fleeting thoughts
  - The midlands- safety- anxiety, worry, frustration, cares of this world- keeps you up at night
  - The depths- security, significance- inner love, joy, peace, faith, hope

### The Holy Spirit with Zechariah's Song - 1:67-71

- Myth- When we're filled with the Spirit, we will get it right, see clearly. Truth- being filled is a j\_\_\_\_\_ of continued growth.

### The Holy Spirit leads Simeon- 2:25-35

- Myth- Getting filled with the Spirit is only a one-time event or only on special occasions. Truth- Getting filled with the Spirit is also a lifelong j\_\_\_\_\_.
- Myth- When we're filled with the Spirit everything will be easy. Truth- A sword- Satan attacks us, the world hates us, the flesh tempts us, and the church misunderstands us- but the Spirit is with us.
- Myth- The Holy Spirit only cares about God's glory. Truth- He cares that God gets the glory and s\_\_\_\_\_ it with us (2:32)
- A theme- the Holy Spirit fills us best when we B.O.W. - 1) b\_\_\_\_\_, 2) o\_\_\_\_\_, and 3) w\_\_\_\_\_ as Mary, Elizabeth, and Simeon

### The Holy Spirit in John's & Jesus' growing up - Lk 1:80, 2:40, 52

- Myth- The Holy Spirit only cares about the spiritual & supernatural. Truth- he cares about w\_\_\_\_\_, common sense, physical & emotional growth- all of life.

### A PRAYER EXPERIENCE- giving ourselves to the Holy Spirit like Mary

1. Present- Our bodies- head, neck, shoulders, arms, hands, chest, belly, legs, feet
2. Detach- Our souls- thoughts, feelings, will- Lord Jesus, I give everyone & everything.
3. Unite- Our spirits- deepest part- Heal our union, Lord Jesus. Fill me, flow through me Holy Spirit.

### **WHAT'S GOD SAYING TO YOU?** - write it down, pray it back, DO IT, and share it with others!

"Heavenly Father, thank you that you sending Jesus. Jesus thank you for coming. Holy Spirit thank you for moving. Fill me like you did Mary, Elizabeth, Zechariah, and Simeon. Flow out of me, to bless others with your glory. Thank you! I love you! I hear You saying..."