

THE WAY - Is Led by the Spirit

- **The Way was a movement. Movements move. Action oriented.**
- The book of Acts where the church was birthed...is a book of movement. Of literal acts.

Acts 1:3-5 - 3 He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. 4 And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, **but to wait for the promise of the Father**, which, he said, "you heard from me; 5 for John baptized with water, but **you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit** not many days from now."

Acts 1:6-8 - 6 So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. 8 But **you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you**, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Acts 2:1-4 - 1 When the day of Pentecost arrived, **they were all together in one place**. 2 And suddenly there came from heaven **a sound like a mighty rushing wind**, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. 4 And **they were all filled with the Holy Spirit** and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance..

Ruwach or Pneuma - Wind or breath - God's Breath - The Holy Spirit

- The coming of the Holy Spirit signified the birth of the church. Whatever God breathes on - comes to life.

The Holy Spirit GIVES LIFE to the church.

- Genesis 2 - Breath of God breathed into Man - Became living. Breathed Life
- Without the Spirit, we are like an ARMY with no life (Ezekiel 37 valley of dry bones)
- **The church is dead without the Spirit.**
- Without the Spirit, we are like a sailboat with no wind - No power. No direction.

3 things the Holy Spirit does in the church and our lives.

1. He FILLS us.

- God wants to fill our church and our homes and our lives with His presence. His Spirit.
- **Without the Holy Spirit we run on empty.**
- When the Holy Spirit fill us...we don't get burned out. We aren't dry or empty.

John 7:38-39 NLT - 38 Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, '**Rivers of living water will flow from his heart.**'" 39 (When he said "living water," **he was speaking of the Spirit**, who would be given to everyone believing in him. But the Spirit had not yet been given, because Jesus had not yet entered into his glory.)

Jesus is living water IN us, the Holy Spirit is living water flowing THROUGH us.

2. He LEADS us.

- Leading insinuates movement. The proof of life is movement. Dead things don't move.

You can see it all through Acts how the Holy Spirit led and moved people.

- Acts 8 Philip was moved down a desert road to reach an Ethiopian - then transported.
- Acts 10 the Spirit moved Peter from a dream to Cornelius to share the gospel with gentiles
- Acts 13 Paul and Barnabas were moved at Antioch and then sent to Cyprus for a mission
- Acts 16 Holy Spirit didn't permit Paul to go to Asia to preach, moved him to Macedonia

John 16:13 - *“When the Spirit of truth comes, **he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future.**”*

The Spirit leads and guides us. Are you being moved in your life toward ministry?
Is the Holy Spirit moving us to action and leading and directing our steps?

Galatians 5:25 NLT - *25 Since we are living by the Spirit, **let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives.***

He speaks to the church to lead the church - **Revelation 2:29** - *29 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'*

3. He EMPOWERS us.

- Acts 1:8 - You will receive POWER - Dunamis - Dynamite. Explosive power for life.
- **The Holy Spirit gives us power to LIVE our faith.**

We need the power of the Holy Spirit to make a difference on this earth.

Otherwise we look for it elsewhere - People, position, ourselves.

- The Spirit empowers the church with inspiration, boldness, gifts.

The world isn't waiting on a church program, they are waiting on a church empowered by the Holy Spirit to rise up and move in that power and bring life to a hurting world.

How do we respond? The same way the disciples did in the early church.

Wait on the Holy Spirit - Don't rush through life. - Spend time with God waiting for power

Surrender to the Holy Spirit - Surrender our plans, our life, our schedules. Following His lead.

Rely on the Holy Spirit - Rely on his power and strength not ours.