

*This weekly devotional is offered as a resource and tool to be used during your personal time and/or in a small group environment.*

## *the other*

*scripture memory:* Acts 1:8

Step Three leads you as a group (or individually) to pray for the leadership and for each person attending Jacob's Well to be led by, filled with, and in step with the Holy Spirit. If you're short on time, do Step Three **first** to make sure you spend time together in prayer.

### *step one*

**READ** together the following excerpt from the Nicene Creed:

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

During the last couple weeks we've learned that the Holy Spirit is with us, in us, and among us. He's at work in our lives, in the lives of those around us, and in this world.

**Do you remember Jesus' words to Nicodemus (John 3:5-8)? Jesus likened the Spirit to that of the wind. How do you know the wind is present? We don't see it, but we see the effect the wind has on everything it touches. Leaves sway, grass bends...**

**DISCUSS** together the following questions:

As you've begun considering the person of the Holy Spirit, have you noticed Him at work? What do you see? Have you been aware of His leading you in some way over the last few weeks? Have you witnessed the results (fruit) of the Holy Spirit in your own life or perhaps in the life of someone you know? What effect has the Holy Spirit had on you lately?

### *step two*

"What the soul is in our body,  
the Holy Spirit is in the body of Christ,  
which is the church." Augustine

**THINK** about that. What is the soul to our body? What are we without our souls? What is the body of Christ, the church, without the Spirit of God?

We can accomplish things solely by utilizing our raw talent and knowledge. People (we) do that all the time.

**READ** John 15:5 and Acts 1:8.

What do you think Jesus means in John 15:5? What kind of difference does the Holy Spirit make? What happens when we're in step with the Spirit?

**READ** verses Acts 1:6-11.

What is the disciples' main concern? (verses 6-7)

What seems to be their focus now? (verses 10-11)

It doesn't seem like Jesus calls us to know the "times or seasons."

Nor does he call us to disengage with the world and those around us.

According to these verses, what does Jesus call us to?

A witness is one who gives testimony to what they've seen, heard, or know by personal experience. Throughout scripture we read about ordinary people encountering Jesus, being changed, and inviting others to "come and see this Jesus." We see people who can't explain how or why they were healed, but can testify to the truth that Jesus heals. They're average people who come to know and follow Jesus, connecting their own story with His story.

**Do you think of yourself as a witness? Why? Why not? What does it mean to be a witness? What are we witnesses to? Where does this take place? As followers of Jesus, what kind of impact do we have in the Chippewa Valley? What kind of power could we have as we invite someone to join us at Jacob's Well?**

### *step three*

The Church which doesn't rely on the power of the Spirit won't accomplish Jesus' Acts 1:8 purposes. Jacob's Well won't be able to accomplish anything without the filling and leading of the Holy Spirit.

Just as being a Spirit-filled person is an issue of lordship and submission, being a Spirit-filled church depends upon our submission and surrender as a church, to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

**SPEND** time together as a group praying for the individuals who make up the body of Christ at Jacob's Well.

- Pray for the leadership at Jacob's Well.
- Pray specifically for wisdom and guidance from the Holy Spirit as we seek direction as a church to join Him as He works individually, locally, regionally, and globally.
- Pray we'd be filled and in step with the Holy Spirit in everything we do at Jacob's Well.
- Pray for our church as we step into 40 Days in the Word - that we'd grow and mature individually as we learn to discern and learn from the Holy Spirit through the Word of God.