

So, What About... The Holy Spirit?

Part 2: What's the point of the HS?

Joel 2:28-32a, Acts 2 - [watch online](#)

### Summary:

We often go through life simply hoping our routines and comforts aren't shaken too much. But this only creates, at best, a purposeless and mundane life. But Jesus promised something so much better. We can know the true purpose of our lives. It all starts with knowing the true purpose of the Holy Spirit.

### Main Points:

[01:44] We can't experience a life of purpose when we don't know the real purpose of our lives.

2:44 Knowing the purpose of the Holy Spirit reveals the purpose of our lives.

10:53 God kept his promise to be with his people again by sending the Holy Spirit.

12:45 The purpose of the Holy Spirit is to give life to a new people who will show the world the life Jesus offers.

14:34 The Holy Spirit has made the Church the new temple of God made up of new individual temples of God.

17:52. A life filled with and controlled by the Holy Spirit is a taste of humanity's future now.

18:55 The Spirit is God's own personal presence in our lives and in our midst. - Gordon Fee

22:42 The purpose of the Holy Spirit is to bring the life of God to the world through the life of God's people.

### 20:00 Goal for this week...

*Be aware of the identity you bear.*

Read/Memorize: 2 Corinthians 5:17

Pray: Thank you for creating me new on purpose and for a purpose. Open my eyes to what you want me to see.

### Discussion Questions:

1. What intrigued, confused, bothered, or inspired you in this week's message?
2. What thoughts and/or feelings come to mind when you think about being a temple of the Holy Spirit?
3. Read 2 Corinthians 5:15-18. How do you think the idea that each Jesus Follower and the Church community as a whole being the temple of God relates to this passage?
4. What steps/practices do you think you could do this week to remind yourself of your "temple-ness?"
5. How can your group pray for you this week?

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### Transcript:

**INTRO:** There's no such thing as an ordinary life.

And whether your life has been great/difficult/disappointing/pretty good/ or just mundane...

There is so much more available... such a bigger purpose available than most of us can even imagine.

And it all starts with the HS and knowing what his purpose is... So let's talk about it together...

**WE:** What's the point of life?

- Get through it?
- Find something you love and pursue it?

- Love God and Others? - But WHY?

What's the point of being a Xian?

- Be nice? Be a good person? Tell bad people how bad they are?
- Go to heaven when die?

What's the point of the Church?

- Teach us to be nice? Make bad people not as bad?
- Make good citizens?
- Teach us things about God?
- Make world better? How?

We go through life, go through our routines, do our religions without really thinking about it... either doing what we think we should/what feels good/ or just b/c routine gives us a sense of security and control?

Rip that routine away... like COVID did... and we're left feeling lost/empty/scared/angry.

**We can't experience a life of purpose when we don't know the real purpose of our lives.**

But there's a better way and we see it in the teachings of Jesus and the BW's... it's knowing the HS. 9 week series

Review last week... same page

- The HS is the most important and most misunderstood part of following Jesus.
- The Spirit of God is the personal presence of God himself.
- The point isn't to UNDERSTAND the HS but to know the HS

This week- **Knowing the purpose of the HS reveals the purpose of our lives.**

To help us know the HS's purpose... we need to look back through the story of God...

**GOD:** Around 600 BC... God chose a man named Joel to be a prophet and speak for him to the Jewish people.

God had promised their ancestors he would be their God and they would be his people... his representatives on earth. To show the world the reality, glory, and love of God.

BUT... though they were going through the motions of religion, their hearts were far from God. They refused to live out their role as God's representatives... taking care of the poor, weak, orphans, and widows... having hearts molded to God's heart.

So through Joel, God warns them that judgment/consequences would be coming. Enemies would invade.

- Which was part of the original covenant/deal/promise they had agreed to.

But God also says that these consequences wouldn't last forever... God would be merciful.

The Day of the Lord would come. A time when God would come, rescue/restore his people, be with his people. Defeat evil and rescue the world.

And he says... **Joel 2:28-32a**.

God will send his Spirit, his personal presence... not to fill their temple but to fill his people. All his people, male/female rich/poor...

Around the same time God had another prophet expand on this Day of the Lord... **Ezekiel 36:25-28**.

God's Spirit (ruach) would come and restore, cleanse, heal, transform, and empower his people so they COULD truly love and follow him and BE his people... a new kind of people.

And 600 years later...

A poor Jewish peasant.. Claims to be this God who has come to restore, cleanse, heal, save, transform, and empower his people.

He accepts the unacceptable, loves the unlovable, forgives what only God can forgive, touches the untouchable, heals the incurable.

He says he is going to establish an ekklesia/church/community that even the gates of hell and death wouldn't be able to withstand.

Strangely He keeps saying he's going to die... But not stay dead. But nobody really gets it.

And then he is killed on a Roman cross... and everyone thinks it's all over. This whole thing must have been a mistake.

Until on the 3rd day they see him alive.

And for 40 days they see him/he teaches them/ and eats with them... **Acts 1:4-5**

"Why wait? Jesus you're alive... you're stronger than death itself... let's do this!!!"

"In fact, can we start conquering the Romans now?" **Acts 1:6-8**

Jesus- "Hold on... You're still thinking about earthly kingdoms, politics, power, authority. You still don't understand what this is about, what the KoG really is.

You still don't understand your true purpose... but soon you will... besides you're still those scared guys who ran away when I was arrested... you need some new power"

And then Jesus ascends into heaven... not the strangest part of story...

So they do as they are told and wait (if someone predicted their D&R and did it you'd probably listen too)... and 50 days after Jesus rose from the dead... **Acts 2:1-4**

Some people amazed... Others- "nah they're drunk"

Peter... too early (never heard of mimosas)... Here's what's going down... Quotes Joel- **Acts 2:16-21**

"This is happening NOW... we ARE the beginning of the fulfillment of God's promise..."

Peter tells them God has visited them and instead of accepting and following... you killed him- BUT

**V. 32-33** You are witnessing the fulfillment of God's promise with your own eyes and ears...

**God kept his promise to be with his people again by sending the HS.**

**V. 36-39** Anyone who repents and chooses to trust that Jesus was/is God and was raised from the dead... Receive the HS and you too will be part of God's promise through Joel.

This isn't reserved just for a select few... all invited... just as God promised. Young/Old... rich/poor... jew/gentile

3000 people choose to believe... They are the beginning of a new community, and really a new kind of humanity... people filled with the Holy Spirit of God

On that day, God put in motion what he promised so long ago...

**The kingdom of God has broken through... the Spirit of God has been poured out on his people... on purpose for a specific purpose...**

Remember from last week... the Spirit of God brings life... *Ruach*. Still his purpose... to bring life (Real life. Fulfilling life... that starts now and lasts forever) to a new people in order to bring life to all of creation.

**The purpose of the Holy Spirit is to give life to a new people who will show the world the life Jesus offers.**

Peter expands on it a few years later... **1 Peter 2:9-10.**

Through the HS,[Gordon Fee] *"God is not just saving individuals and preparing them for heaven; rather, he is creating A PEOPLE among whom he can live and who in their lives together will reproduce God's life and character."*

And now instead of a temple being a place where people experience God... The community brings God to the world...

It is in this community of people that the HS points the world to Jesus- **1 Corinthians 3:16**

- Community- JF's living, supporting, celebrating together is the temple of the Holy Spirit.
- Gatherings are an expression of the Church.
- Building is not a temple... the community of people are temple.

And this community is the temple b/c each individual member is also now a temple of the HS- **1 Corinthians 6:19**.

**The HS has made the Church the new temple of God made up of new individual temples of God.**

- Like those toys/cartoons where vehicles came together to make robot
- Food truck pod- Beehive.
  - One gathering of food service but each truck can go on own and bring food.

If JF... You are bringing God wherever you go.

- You're little portable temples of the God of the Universe.
- Have you ever seen yourself like this?

That is no ordinary life.

WHY???? What is so different?

These new humans live an Already-Not Yet existence.

- Are already living in the KoG now... Have and Experience God reigning as king in lives, minds, hearts... but are not yet fully what we will be when Jesus returns and recreates all of creation.
- They are the first of the fulfillment of God's ultimate promise... a sign that the rest of the promise will be fulfilled...
- Evil will be dealt with, pain, suffering, and death will ultimately die forever. God will reign in the hearts of humanity... we will be restored to him to our perfect Father forever... **Isaiah 45:22-24a**

Right now... those who have, live/walk with the HS are the first of the restored humanity... Paul calls them firstfruits... like those first blossoms on trees at the beginning of spring.. .that show what will come... a tree covered in blossoms.

The HS was given on purpose... if JF You have a purpose. To demonstrate and proclaim the love of God to the world Jesus came to save.

- You were recreated to be examples of the life Jesus offers now and what humanity will be when God makes all things new again.
- Showing who God is and what life/eternal life is like now and will be like when all things are put right.
  - Individually and as the community of the Church.
  - All races, genders, statuses living equally in love and peace with each other.
- JF's are right now living as people of the future... with God's personal presence... in a world still in the chains of evil.

**A life filled with and controlled by the Holy Spirit is a taste of humanity's future now.**

So through the HS... God is creating a people of his own to show the world who he is.

The point of the Holy Spirit is to point people to Jesus by empowering the people of God to think, live, and love like Jesus

We don't have to just accept a "normal" mundane/difficult/hopeless/stuck in a rut life...

We are invited into God's promise... if you are a JF... chosen to trust and believe... you have been given the HS as Joel promised... You have a God-given purpose that he planned from the beginning of time... you are part of this already not yet humanity.

Whoever you are. Whatever you think about yourself... You are God's temple.

That isn't a guilt thing or some kind of warning... it is the privilege of your new existence.

### **The Spirit is God's own personal presence in our lives and in our midst. - Gordon Fee**

And he continues to carry out God's plan for the universe through YOU.

**YOU:** What that means is if JF... in your daily life... at work, school, rest, play, errands, chores, parties, jury duty, you are a walking temple of God... and as Peter said, a holy priest of God.

You are not alone. You are not on your own. He is in you and with you... bringing heaven to earth now... through you.

And when you are with other temples with the same presence of God (Connect Groups/Dinners/Church for example), you are, together, the temple of God on earth.

But unfortunately... the Church and individual JF's don't always live this out... many of you have not experienced the church/xians displaying and reproducing the life and character of God... have you?

Why? B/c many don't know their purpose and the purpose of the HS.

- **In order to be what we were recreated to be we need to be filled with and rely on the HS... it starts with being aware...**

### **Goal for this week... Be aware of the identity you bear.**

**Read/Memorize: 2 Corinthians 5:17**

**Pray: Thank you for creating me new on purpose and for a purpose. Open my eyes to what you want me to see.**

If not yet, just know this is what's offered.

Repent... change allegiance from yourself... worrying about and building your own crumbling kingdom... driven by self/wants/following base instincts... to Jesus and his Kingdom and allowing him to give you, through the HS, new instincts and new life.

Choose to believe he can/will do this b/c he rose from the dead.

Begin a life of purpose. Not easy... but worth it.

**WE:** Rest of Series will be **HOW** he creates his people... through transforming individuals then how creating community... the church. And how we can work with him to become who we were recreated to be.

The Spirit of God doesn't create new life willy nilly...

When God breathes his Spirit into someone... there is a new creation created on purpose for a purpose...

To display/share the life Jesus offers by enjoying it/living it every day/ with God himself...

There is no ordinary life. Be aware the spirit is there in you... be aware of who you really are.

**The purpose of the HS is to bring the life of God to the world through the life of God's people.**