

Vineyard Women Mentoring

Holy Spirit Ministry

INTRODUCTION

Acts 2:1-4 On the day Pentecost was being fulfilled, all the disciples were gathered in one place. Suddenly they heard the sound of a violent blast of wind rushing into the house from out of the heavenly realm. The roar of the wind was so overpowering it was all anyone could bear! Then all at once a pillar of fire appeared before their eyes. It separated into tongues of fire that engulfed each one of them. They were all filled and equipped with the Holy Spirit and were inspired to speak in tongues—empowered by the Spirit to speak in languages they had never learned!

15-18 These people are not drunk like you think they are, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. This is the fulfillment of what was prophesied through the prophet Joel, for God says: 'This is what I will do in the last days[—I will pour out my Spirit on everybody and cause your sons and daughters to prophesy, and your young men will see visions, and your old men will experience dreams from God.The Holy Spirit will come upon all my servants, men and women alike, and they will prophesy. TPT

ICE BREAKER QUESTION

Read the above text.

- 1.What stands out? Supernatural signs? Tongues? Drunkenness? Daughters included?
2. Share a short description of your own history with the Holy Spirit. (when first filled, positive, negative experiences, obstacles, delights, etc)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

“Come Holy Spirit” defines the Vineyard Movement. Do you know the Vineyard history? Take a few minutes to read this brief account of the first time the Holy Spirit invaded the Vineyard!

Vineyard Holy Spirit History

(Edited from The Way It Was by Carol Wimber pp. 146-149)

Now Lonnie Frisbee made John nervous; he made us all nervous, but John Thought the Lord telling him to ask Lonnie to speak, to give his testimony on the following Sunday night, our

READING CONT.

third anniversary as a church. It was May 11, 1980, Mother's Day. John opened the service saying only a few words about Lonnie begin used in the Jesus People Movement and then he introduced him, but stayed up there on the platform behind his keyboard the whole time Lonnie spoke. Within reach, should anything goofy occur. Lonnie was articulate, profound and funny and John's fears were put to rest as he enjoyed Lonnie along with everyone else. That is until the end. After the hilarious applause, John, full of good cheer, made a move to get up from the keyboard to take the mike and close the meeting. He wasn't fast enough. While John was yet planning the closing words, Lonnie was asking everyone under 25 to come forward. Since that was almost the total congregation (1500) everyone just crowded forward until you couldn't squeeze in sideways. Then he did his famous and favorite prophetic invitation:

"The church has for years grieved the Holy Spirit. (Pregnant pause) But, he's getting over it."
(Shouting now) "Come Holy Spirit!"

Everyone was shouting and you couldn't hear anything but the roar of the crowd as hundreds were filled with the Holy Spirit at the same time and were shouting out loud in tongues. The chairs were falling over and the people were falling on top of the fallen chairs. The leaders that could still function were shouting at one another and it was complete pandemonium. Others were shouting that they were getting out of here. Young Tim Pfeiffer fell face down, pulled the microphone down under him and if we had ever entertained the thought of keeping any kind of reputation of respectability, it went up to the ceiling of the gymnasium along with Tim's voice—as he shouted uncontrollably in tongues with the volume turned all the way up because someone had crashed into the sound board. John was paralyzed, caught in mid motion as he reached for the mike and I couldn't tell if that look on his face was profound wonder or sheer terror. Others and myself started wading through the fallen bodies assessing the situation. I met John somewhere in the pile and I told him I thought it was the Lord. After all, hadn't we been praying for power for ministry? This, John, is it! He gazed at me with a sort of stunned, faraway expression. John's senses were still functioning though no matter how deeply in shock he was, because he heard very

clearly the Bibles slam shut and saw just as clearly those same people stomp furiously out of the gym, some never to be seen by us again. I know we re-populated the Friends Church with horrified ex-Vineyard Members. That's fine. That's only fair. John did not sleep that night at all. He stayed up with his books on church history and revivals and studied and prayed. About 5 in the morning, Tommy Stipe called from Denver, CO. "I don't know what's going on there, John, but the Lord woke me up and told me to call and tell you that it's him. Does that make sense?" God bless Tim Stipe!

When John came down to our offices the next morning there was a contingency of unhappy staff members waiting for him. He listened to their complaints (legitimate complaints; they'd been up the whole night too) I'll never forget what he said. He removed his glasses and leaned forward and spoke very softly, but very clearly. "I understand how you feel. What happened last night may result in people leaving, but there is something you need to understand about me if we are to continue to work together. If ever there is a choice between the smart thing to do and the move of the Holy Spirit, I will always land on the side of the Spirit. You need to know that." It was a defining moment in the Vineyard and it's etched indelibly in my memory. Our church was somewhat altered by the outpouring of the Spirit. A revival broke out among the young people and they took it to the school campuses in the area and bible studies started popping all over the place attendance grew along with the conversions and we probably hit 2000.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Share your response to the above account.
2. How does this compare to your experiences in the Vineyard movement?
3. Share what is the current health of Holy Spirit ministry in each area(1-10 healthiest); your church setting? your personal life? Give a brief explanation of your assessments.
4. Share how your ministry setting best facilitates Holy Spirit activity. Ministry time after service with words of knowledge, Healing Rooms, Training of ministry people, etc.
5. What have been your personal experiences with praying for people outside the church setting: "Can I pray for you right now?"
6. Write down your top three questions about the Holy Spirit--theology, ministry, character? Share and discuss with the group.
7. Write down your favorite resource on Holy Spirit Ministry: Book, course, online class, podcast, etc. Share with group and tell why.

CALL TO ACTION

This year's national conference has the theme: "Come Holy Spirit". Our National Director Phil Strout has invited all of us to fast and pray for 40 days before each conference--Dayton and Denver. He senses this is crucial to what God has for us. Please consider joining this in some way.

This is our final time to meet. Share your high/low of the program!

