**The Holy Spirit and Jesus**

**The Word**

Read together John 14:15-27

**The Big Idea**

One of the Holy Spirit’s primarily roles is to connect us to Jesus. Through the Holy Spirit’s presence in our lives, we get to know Jesus more intimately, become more like Jesus, and make Jesus known to others.

**Questions for Discussion**

1. Take most of your time tonight considering this question: What “baggage” do you bring to this series on the Holy Spirit? That is, what assumptions, experiences, and biases do you have regarding the Spirit and being filled with the Spirit?

2. What is one comment or perspective from Sunday’s message that was most impactful to you (positively or negatively) and why?

3. As we come to the beginning of a new year and a new decade, where in your life is there a longing for a fresh work of the Holy Spirit?

4. Spend some extra time tonight praying for and with one another—that God would do a fresh work of renewal and transformation in your hearts and lives this year.

**Digging Deeper: Sermon Outline**

I. When it comes to the Holy Spirit, we all have assumptions and baggage.

 A. Confusion and ignorance

 B. Suspicion and guardedness

 C. Longing and curiosity

II. Jesus’ own life and ministry was intimately connected with the Spirit

A. Conceived by the Holy Spirit (Mt 1:18), anointed at his baptism for public ministry (Mt 3:16), led by the Spirit into the wilderness to battle Satan (Lk 4:1), sent into his ministry in the power of the Spirit (Lk 4:14), anointed by the Spirit to preach the good news (Luke 4:18), casted out demons by the Spirit (Mt 12:28), filled with joy through the Holy Spirit (Lk 10:21), offered his life on the cross through the Spirit (Hb 9:14), raised by the power of the Spirit (Ro 8:11)

B. Jesus was the perfectly Spirit-filled man

III. Jesus spoke about the Spirit the night before he was crucified

A. The Spirit is “another advocate” (v. 16)

1. Advocate: one who is called alongside to offer help, counsel, comfort

2. Another: Jesus was the first advocate who came alongside the disciples. So the Spirit will continue a similar ministry

3. The Spirit is a Person just as the Son is a Person

B. He will be in you (v. 17)

1. Jesus could only be “with them” and his ministry in their lives was in some ways limited by that, but the Holy Spirit would be “in them” to transform them from the inside out.

2. “It is for your benefit that I go away and send the Advocate” (Jn 16:5-7)

3. At Pentecost the disciples were transformed into humble, courageous, fully-committed followers of Jesus through the Spirit’s work in their lives.

C. The Spirit’s role is to mediate the presence of the risen Jesus to his followers

1. This explains how Jesus can both say “I’m leaving you and returning to the Father” (Jn 14:2-3) and “I will not leave you as orphans. I will come to you.” (Jn 14:18-19)

2. Notice how the Biblical authors and interchange the idea of the Holy Spirit being in us with the idea of Christ being in us (Romans 8:9-10 and Ephesians 3:16-17)

3. The Father and Son make their home in us through the Holy Spirit (v. 23)

 D. The Spirit’s ministry in our hearts is to shine the spotlight on Jesus

 1. He will speak what he hears from Jesus and make it known to us (Jn 16:13)

2. He will take realities associated with Jesus (forgiveness, adoption, eternal life, etc.) and make them real in our hearts and minds (Jn 16:14)

3. His role is to “glorify Jesus” (Jn 16:14)

E. So when we’re filled with the Spirit, we might not actually be focused on the Spirit; we’ll be focused on Jesus

 F. The Spirit will not make us weird any more than Jesus himself was weird

-We will be ourselves but more surrendered to Jesus, more trusting in him, more fully resting in his grace, more passionate about others knowing him, etc.

IV. Conclusion

 Let’s ask God for more of the Holy Spirit’s work in our lives this year (see Luke 11:9-13)