

A Guide for Spiritual Formation

Theme of the month:

Text for the Week:

Message for the Week:

Theme for the Week:

The Church's Mission

Acts 4:32-5:11

"All In"

Christ requires all his disciples to be all in; serving one another, his world, and his kingdom

Week 14

Opening:

What is one low (a bad thing) and one high (a good thing) that happened to you this past week? Write them down and take turns sharing them with the others in your group.

Where have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in your life this past week?

Growing up, what religious practices did you do just because everyone else did it that way?

Preparation:

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with God to center and prepare yourself for your time with God today.

Read:

Read Acts 4:32-5:11 out loud.

What words, phrases, or ideas grabbed your attention and heart in these verses?

Write them down below and/or share them those who are with you.

Respond / Reflect:

Have you ever seen or experienced the unifying work of the Holy Spirit? Where was it?

What qualities of a *spirit-driven church* do you see and what qualities of a *self-driven church* do you see in the Covenant Church community?

How do you think you would fit into the early church?

When has being part of a community cost you something? What was it?

Why do we think we deserve to have all the blessings and benefits of being a disciple of Jesus without the cost?

"Try It!"

This week pay attention to Spirit's prompting as He shows you the needs and opportunities around you. Children and students, help identify these needs. What resources do you have that could help meet those needs? How are you going to share sacrificially to help address the need?

Prayer:

Spend time in prayer regarding the things God revealed and that you discerned in your time with God today.

Also, spend time in prayer with/for the other people who are with you...pray this prayer.

Lord,

We pray for an outpouring of your Holy Spirit. Come, Holy Spirit.

We pray that the Spirit will reveal Christ to us. Come, Holy Spirit.

We pray that the Spirit will shape us in the character of Christ. Come, Holy Spirit.

We pray that the Spirit will equip us for the mission of Christ. Come, Holy Spirit.

We pray that the Spirit will form us by the early church's rule of life; devotion to the Apostle's Teaching, to the fellowship, the breaking of bread, and prayer. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, AMEN.

Missional Practice for the Month:

Use the prayer above each day to pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit for those living on your block in your neighborhood, for those living in your condo or apartment building and/or your co-workers. Sometime during the month, when prompted by the Spirit, try and break bread (eat or drink) with one or two of them to get to know them better.