

Lake Merced Church of Christ

Home Groups

What Now? - Anointing of the Holy Spirit

Ice Breaker

Think of a rite of passage in your life or a time that you were given a job or responsibility that you were not previously welcomed to perform before. Hopefully this is something you *wanted* to do. What was that opportunity? Why was it meaningful to you to finally be able to do whatever it was?

Opening Prayer

As you settle into prayer time, do not be afraid or uncomfortable to let there be some time of silence. Try to approach God with a spirit of reverence as you talk to Him and then just talk to Him...about anything. Pray that your group time would be fresh, honest, transparent, and that it might grow you.

Discussion

Read Acts 10 together as a group and then discuss the following questions as the Holy Spirit leads.

1. In this week's message, Josh discussed being anointed with the Holy Spirit and power. Look at Acts 10:37-38. How do you think you would have read or understood this anointing before this week's message? How might your understanding have changed?
2. Josh compared "anointing" with an officer receiving their badge, or with a marine receiving their uniform as examples of being commissioned for a new job or position. In what ways, did the anointing of the Holy Spirit on Jesus' life impact his life? What do you think the Father was commissioning him to do?
3. Read 2 Corinthians 1:21-22 and 1 John 2:20-27 as a group. What do you think these passage suggest about how this anointing from the Holy Spirit affects our lives as followers of Christ?
4. The Apostle Peter would echo what Paul and John wrote when he reminded believers they were part of a "Royal Priesthood" in 1 Peter 2:9. Reflect on the special anointing that was reserved for Kings, Priests, and Prophets in Scripture. If God anointed them because of the significance of the mission ahead, what do you think it should mean for Christians to *also* have been anointed as part of a "Royal Priesthood?" How do you think that should change the way we live out our lives?
5. The rest of that passage gives purpose to the life of a "priest." They are to "declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light." What do you think this means practically speaking? Does this excite you? Challenge you? Discourage you? What is your most honest reaction to a call to declare praises? Why?

Closing Prayer

Spend some time praying for the needs of one another as you close. Encourage each person to share the greatest obstacle they face to declaring praise for Jesus in every walk of life. Where do you need courage? Where do you need grace? Pray for those things as you draw to a close.