

Small Groups  Beautiful SAVIOUR	<h1>Jesus the Baptizer</h1> <p>Session Four</p>  <p>Term: Oct/Nov, 2017 4th of 5 Studies</p>
<i>Connect. Care. Change.</i>	

Note: (1) Don't forget to make plans for the GREY CUP! (2) Turkeys (see instructions) are due on Fri., Dec 1 or Sat., Dec. 2 until noon.
PLEASE HAND INSTRUCTIONS TO THOSE COOKING TURKEYS!

1. Crowd-breaker [15min] [Leaders, please don't skip this.]

Discuss your first impressions of the Holy Spirit.

2. Video [5 min] Watch the Session 4 video together.

3. Introduction

...may I dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple." (Ps.27: 4)

John tells us that Jesus is 100% God and 100% man, and Jesus is The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

John describes himself as one who baptizes with water and Jesus as the One who baptizes in the Spirit. Matthew adds that Jesus baptizes with the Spirit and with fire [Matthew 3:11].

Baptize means "to immerse." John's was a baptism in water for repentance or as an act of sorrow for sin *and* surrender to God. Jesus' baptism was to impart and fill people with the Holy Spirit—to fully immerse people in God. It is to be full of God and fully in God.

When we become Christians, the Holy Spirit comes to dwell within us. First we are truly sorry for our sins, asking for forgiveness and then by faith we accept that Jesus died for our sins. If we are sincere, God accepts us into His family by giving us His Holy Spirit to dwell within us [**Read Ephesians 1:13-14**].

But this is just the beginning. God wants to fill us and continue to fill us with His Spirit! Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit [John 14-16] who comforts & teaches us, empowering us to be His witnesses on the earth. That's what we're discussing today.

4. Scripture Read: John 1:29-34; Acts 1:1-9 & Acts 2:1-21

Leaders, only assign paragraphs to those who like to read.

Please read out loud:

The Pentecostal movement is by far the largest and most important religious movement of the 20th century, beginning in 1901 with only a handful of students in a Bible College in Topeka, Kansas. April 9, 1906 marks the beginning of the Azusa Street revival when the Spirit was poured out in Los Angeles and spread so that today there are over 560 million Pentecostals around the world and growing. Did you know that Cross Church is a Pentecostal church? We teach and believe in the importance of the empowering of, and constant filling with, the Holy Spirit for Christian vitality and service!

5. Discussion [45 min]

1. In Peter's sermon on the Day of Pentecost, he references the Prophet Joel's prophecy [Acts 2:17-21] based on Joel 2:28-32].

- Take a moment to go through this passage line by line and discuss the many thrilling things that God will be doing (and *is* doing) in these last days.

2. Jesus promised that He would send the Holy Spirit to all who are Born Again. [**Read John 14:15-20**]

- You have the Holy Spirit in you and you are in God! How does that make you feel—what comes to mind—knowing that as a follower of Jesus Christ, you do not live this life in your own wisdom, skill and strength.
- What happens when we try to do it in our own ability?

3. Read Galatians 5:22-23 Paul tells us what the Fruit of the Spirit is in our lives. Discuss what this means. What does it mean if this fruit is not consistently evident in your life?

4. Read 1 Peter 4:7-11 Peter tells us that we all have Spiritual gifts. Do you know what yours is [are]?

- What will you do to discover them?
- What is the purpose of these spiritual gifts?

5. Read Ephesians 5:15-20. Paul tells us how to live out our faith, being filled with the Spirit.

- What's stopping you from asking God for more of His Spirit?
- Have you ever prayed to be filled with the Holy Spirit? [Acts 2:4]

6. Prayer time [not everyone has to pray out loud]

Fellowship and Snack