



February 4, 2024

Sunday school at 9:30, Service at 10:30.

News:

Wednesday Evening Classes at 6:30

330 N. Somers Rd. (Mail: PO Box 10626) Kalispell, MT 59904~ (406) 755-1776

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Peter preached a ¹Spirit-led ²winsome ³Biblical sermon that entirely ⁴focused on Jesus with ⁵boldness by ⁶challenging the mindset of his audience.

1) Spirit-led: The Holy Spirit descended upon them and every one of them, clergy, and laity, male, and female, wealthy, and poor, was equipped to _____ and _____ they did.

Peter was _____ by the Holy Spirit into a _____ of the Gospel and yet, Peter was always a take charge kind of guy... What had really changed?

When the Holy Spirit invades a human being that human being, no matter how in-sync with the Holy Spirit they become, will _____ that human being.

Pure Biblical Christianity and Eastern Zen Buddhism. Christianity is fantastically _____, deriving from God Himself Who exists as a perfectly harmonious relational unity of individuated Persons – the _____.

What God must do is transform us through His _____ into less fearful people until finally we have no more fear at all (I John 4:18&19).

Your job in life is to work together with the Holy Spirit by actively _____ to His work in you. That work comes in three areas.

- a) Love.
- b) Christlikeness.
- c) Ministry.

Fill out the other side, detach this part of the page, and place it in the offering plate or the prayer/suggestion box in the lobby or with an Elder or Deacon of the church.

God Bless You!

God takes you as you are and redirects everything that makes you who you are into _____.
 God doesn't _____ your past, He _____ it, if you will allow Him to.

Like love, forgiveness is a two-sided proposition. If you are unforgiving, it means that you don't view yourself as being very _____.

The observable cause of unforgiveness is _____.

This is our Christian _____, and it is the only thing that has any true eternal significance. Pray, yield, be intentional, be willing, be available, and be active. Try things, adjust, grow, learn, and enjoy being of use in whatever capacity it happens to be for now.

2) Winsome: Peter preached the Truth, but he did it as appealingly as possible. His goal was for his audience to respond _____.

The Gospel itself is so utterly _____ that alienating others requires no help from us (Genesis 6:5, John 7:7, Romans 1:20, 3:10–18, 3:23, Hebrews 10:27).

The scoffers in the crowd jeered and Peter turned it into a _____.

3) Biblical: Peter took them directly to the _____ by directly quoting Joel 2:28–32, Psalm 16:8–11, and Psalm 110:1 as well as alluding to multiple other Bible passages.

4) Focused on Jesus: That's Christocentric preaching.

5) Boldness: A preacher fears _____ when he is afraid of a _____ response to his message. When that fear is allowed to influence what the preacher preaches then the preaching is a manipulation of the Truth in order to manipulate the audience to _____ with the preacher (John 15:18).

6) Challenging the Mindset: Contrary to popular opinion the Holy Spirit is not the seat of God's _____ – the Holy Spirit is the seat of God's _____. The Holy Spirit renews the human mind, never the human emotion. Change a person's perspective and their _____ will follow.

 Write a brief note – detach and place in the offering, or the prayer box, or give it to a Deacon or Elder.

 Name _____ Address _____
 Phone _____ Email _____



Alêtheia

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP



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Alêtheia

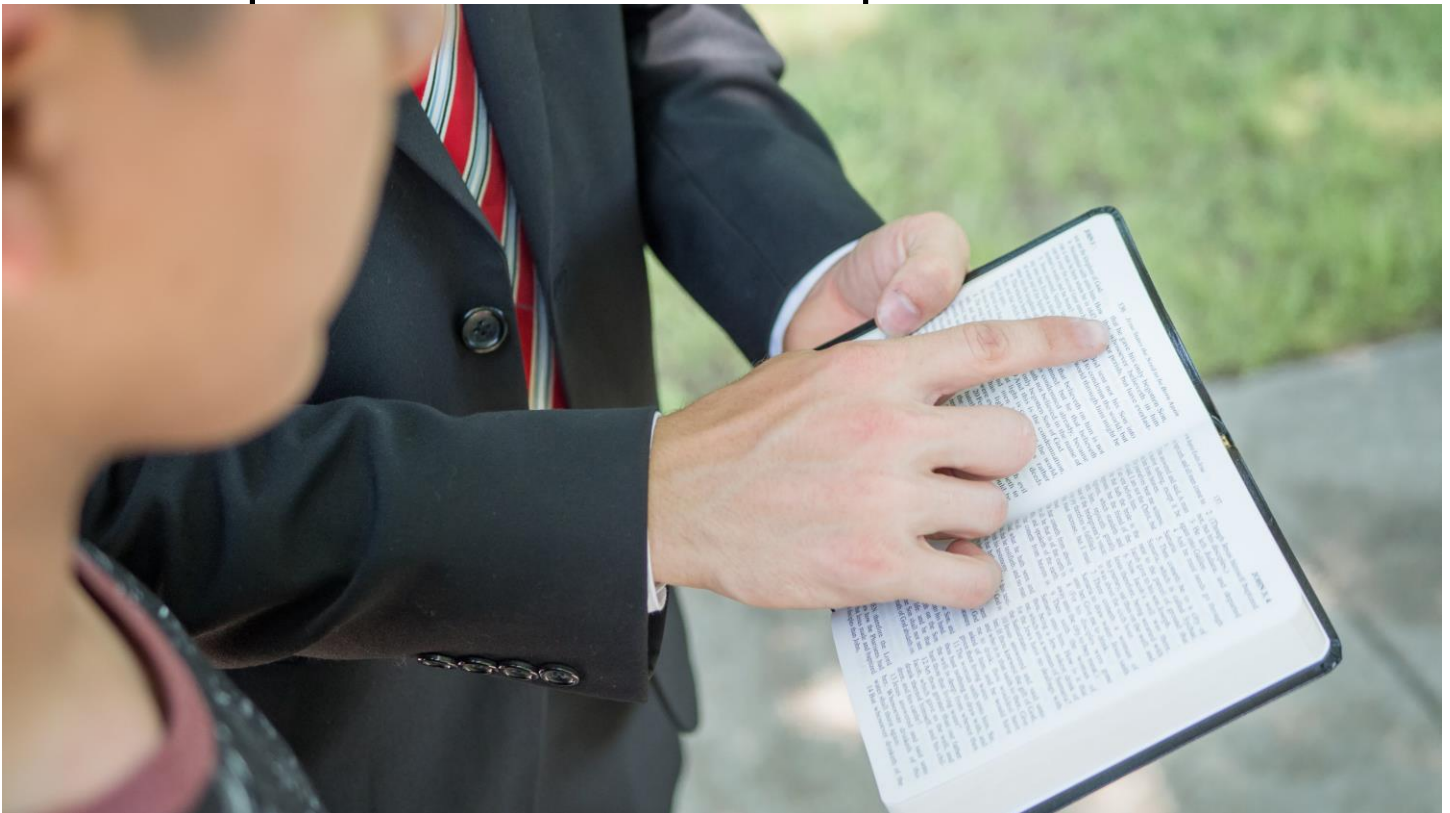
CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP



Last week we read through the very first Christian pastor's very first public sermon. Sometimes in dissecting the Bible verse-by-verse we miss the big picture. I didn't want us to get so focused in examining individual trees that we failed to appreciate the forest.

Today, we'll go back over some of the bigger ideas related to that ground-breaking sermon. I want to talk about those elements under six umbrella categories. Peter preached a 1spirit-led 2winsome 3Biblical sermon that entirely 4focused on Jesus with 5boldness by 6challenging the mindset of his audience.

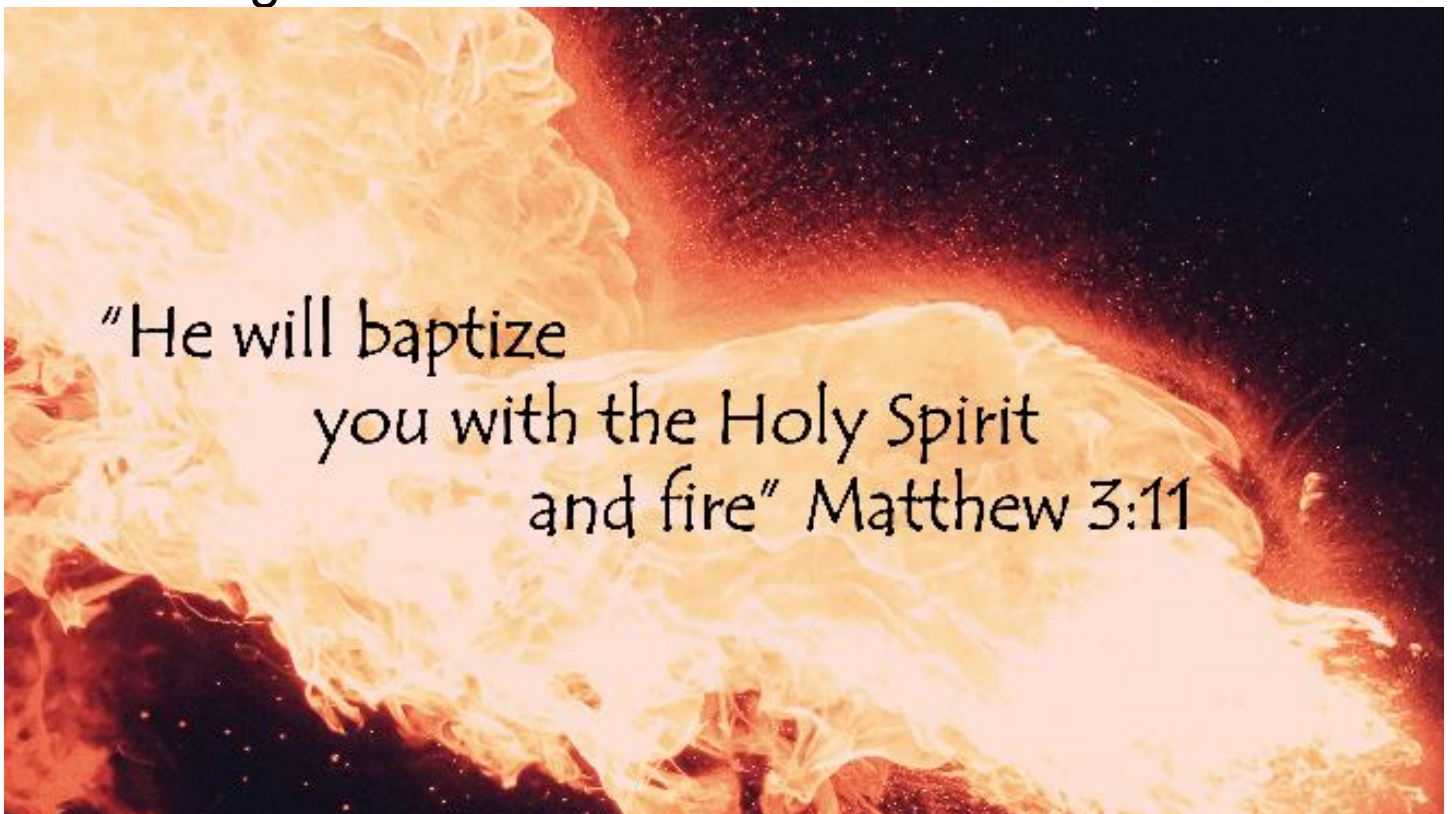
Those are the six categories that I promised and as we go through them, you might think, “six points in a single sermon?” Well, it’s only the standard 3-point sermon, but as with every Sunday, you’re getting at least two sermons for the price of one. We might consider changing the name of the church from Alêtheia Fellowship to the twofer fellowship.



You might also think that none of the six points apply to you if you’re not an active pastor or some other preacher of the Gospel. If you think that... You are 100% correct. This examination of Peter’s sermon on Pentecost does not pertain to you, it has nothing to do with you, and it is a complete waste of your time... That

is, if you are not an active pastor or some other preacher of the Gospel.

Now, as I have repeatedly stated and will show again today in the first point, that every Christian is called by the Father, commissioned by the Lord, and equipped by the Holy Spirit, to preach the Gospel. If you are a Christian this message is precisely for you. If you are not a Christian, well, pay attention and that might very well change in the next 45 minutes.



1) Spirit-led: The 120 or so Christians were huddled together praying. They were in Jerusalem surrounded by the people who had brutally murdered the Son of God less than two months earlier. Initially they were

terrified, then after spending time with the Resurrected Lord they no doubt felt better, but then Jesus Ascended and they had been alone for at least a week. It's not hard to imagine that they were nervous and uncertain.

The Holy Spirit descended upon them and immediately everything changed. They all burst out of their isolation and onto the public scene loudly, exuberantly, and boldly declaring the Goodness of God in languages they did not know.

Who preached? Every one of them, clergy, and laity, male, and female, wealthy, and poor, everyone among them was equipped to preach and preach they all did.

Subsequent to that morning, there has never been, nor will there ever be, a Christian who is not Baptized in the Holy Spirit. No Christian is without the Holy Spirit power to preach the Gospel and no Christian is exempt from doing just that. Every Christian must tell others about Jesus – it's not our avocation, it is our vocation. Simply tell others what Jesus has done for you.

Let's zero in on Peter. Knowing Peter, the way that we do, we might think that nothing much had changed, yet I'm here to tell you that Peter was transformed by the

Holy Spirit into a bold and eloquent preacher of the Gospel. Sure, Peter had his natural talents and abilities, but we can easily see something quite new here if we look hard enough. God the Holy Spirit repurposed Peter's attributes rather than changing his entire persona. and He did that by changing Peter's perspective.

Going back to the scene once again, we know that there were 12 Apostles and over 100 other disciples who were all collectively participating in quite a Spirit-led supernatural commotion right out in the open where there were literally thousands of massed people. Those thousands of people were same ones who, less than two months earlier, had at least gone along with the public execution of Jesus for His Own Spirit-led supernatural commotion.

Already some in the crowd were jeering, taunting, and mocking the disciples and yet Peter stood up and took charge of the crowd and proclaimed what could have easily resulted in his violent execution.

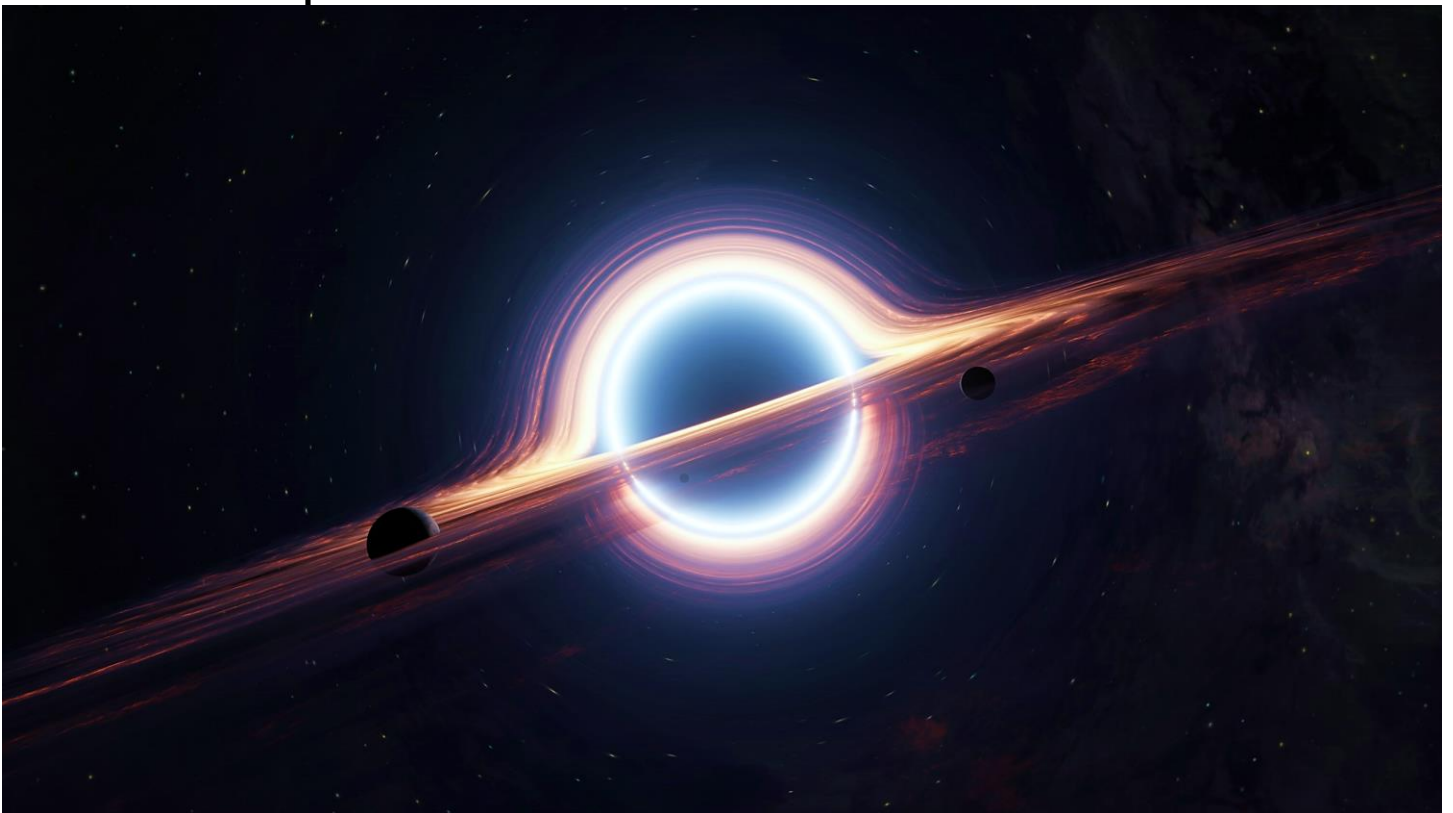
Well, Peter was a natural leader, a take charge kind of guy who wasn't shy about voicing his opinions. He had no difficulty expressing himself on behalf of himself or

others and despite his moment of weakness at the High Priest's house, he was courageous. He fearlessly attacked the arresting mob on the night Jesus was betrayed. It what would have been a suicide mission if Jesus hadn't intervened.

If I simply told you that one of the 120 or so disciples stood up and preached a sermon at Pentecost and didn't provide you with his name, you probably would have guessed that it was Peter. At the same time though, and this is the point, what Peter said and how he handled the situation is very different to anything we've seen from him before.



This was not at all the same Peter, even though it was much the same Peter. The Holy Spirit doesn't completely change a Christian's personality, He doesn't erase a Believer's past memories, or their fears, or their hurts, or their defense mechanisms. He doesn't alter a disciples natural, God-given talents and abilities. When the Holy Spirit invades a human being that human being, no matter how in-sync with the Holy Spirit they become, will still be uniquely that human being. The butterfly George is the same George who was a caterpillar.



That's a really important concept with far-reaching ramifications. I won't run you through the whole argument, but since there is something, rather than

nothing, the only correct logical, rational, and scientific conclusion is that there exists a divine Creator. A Creator Who Himself cannot possibly be bound by physical space-time-matter reality that He Himself created. That's a necessary given, but if we humans are to relate in some way to that Creator, we need to have Him more information – we need Him to define Himself further.

Despite ideas to the contrary, in the entire sweep of human history there are only two belief systems that adequately, reasonably, and systematically define the Creator further.



One is pure Biblical Christianity, and the other is Eastern Zen Buddhism. No other systems, ideologies, zeitgeists, philosophies, or viewpoints come close and so none of them are even worth mentioning.



When I say Zen Buddhism, I don't mean the romanticized, virtue-signaling, hippy stuff that woke Americans glom onto – doing yoga while listening to a self-help podcast and taking a selfie. I mean the real deal. The core belief of which is that selflessness leads to harmony. It goes against human nature and has a lot to recommend it, until you realize that the ultimate goal of that selflessness is actually selfish. It is to empty oneself of self and so, to break free of the cycle of pain and reach nirvana, which is itself a selfish goal.



That leaves pure Biblical Christianity. Here's a freebee that has nothing to do with the point I'm making... Pure Biblical Christianity as opposed to Christian religion because every time we humans add something to the Bible, we make Christianity about us and that's precisely where it diverges into false religion. Ask Christians why they go to church, and the vast majority will give you self-focused reasons that prove that they don't have a clue about Biblical Christianity which is what Jesus actually taught.

Getting Saved is not about you avoiding the bad place. As soon as a person thinks that way, they have fallen into the same religiosity that characterizes Muslims,

Mormons, American fake-Buddhists, and the rest. So, even though this is not the point I'm actually making, let me finish it off.

As I said, this is a freebee, but that doesn't mean it's worth what you're paying for it. We err in our understanding of basic Christian tenants because we assume that Christianity is about us ultimately ascending into Heaven. You will never properly understand theology with that perspective. The correct Biblical starting point is that Christianity is about God coming down to earth. Again, that's far more profound than you may realize. I encourage you to think through the ramifications of that paradigm shift.

My actual point in bringing all this up is that in Zen Buddhism, the closest wrong thing to a right thing, the goal is joining the immaterial, the spirit, or the force to borrow from Star Wars. It is to become one with the eternal consciousness and to be absorbed by it, which if you're paying attention means that you as an individual personality cease to exist. The ultimate goal is your own annihilation as you become an indistinguishable part of the collective ooze.



Christianity is fantastically different, and it derives from God Himself Who exists as a perfectly harmonious relational unity of individuated Entities or Persons – the Trinity. This is the Trinity statue in Budapest built in 1709 to keep the Black Death at bay... It worked. Anyway, because God is Who He is, He has established eternity in His presence where there will never be even a hint of discord and yet every one of us will still be us.

How can millions, perhaps billions, of individual persons, souls, entities, all remain entirely unique and yet all be in perfect, continuous, harmonious accord? Obviously, God must help us shed all of the negative

effects of our existence, which produce fear. To remain you, God cannot eradicate what makes you, you. You are a product of your base personality coupled with your life experiences.

If God eliminated your personality and your experiences, would you, be you? No, of course not, “the you,” that exists now, would no longer be... period. It would be no different than Buddhist annihilation.

Clearly what God must do is transform us through His Love into less and less fearful people until finally we have no more fear at all. Then, and only then, can love can have its full effect in us and so through us out to God and out to others - that’s the Kingdom of Heaven.

From that you can see that there is a process of transformation where we will remain who we are but will be without any hint of the fear that holds us back from unity. My friends, every time we have discord among us it is because of our human fear... Fear is the Love killer. The Bible declares that “There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not perfected in love. We love, because He first loved us” (I John 4:18&19). What it means is that fear hinders love

from having its intended effect. We are full of fear and our fear is based upon our personality coupled with our experiences projected out into the future.



Do you see that? Our fear is based upon our personality coupled with our experiences projected out into the unknown... It is the stuff that worries the person you are at this moment about a possible future. Fear is always based upon a projection of what we assume the future will be and when we don't like that projection, we act to manipulate it to an outcome that serves... Our self-focused opinion of what's best. Even if we try our hardest to work for a future that is the greatest good for the most people it is still our human opinion of what that is.

This is the fundamental sin. Man acting as though He is God. So, if you got lost along the way to the salient point for today, it is that while we will always be us, God must redirect the effects of our personality and experiences to be positive and He does that by eradicating our fear by replacing it with His Love.



Here's the example and the reason I brought it up... Peter often did bold things before He was filled with God's Spirit, but previously they were done out of fear. Now, with the Holy Spirit Peter was being bold because he had no fear. That's the transformation. We see it when we let go and let God, unfortunately, we are

incapable of keeping that up for long before our fear reasserts itself.

Your job in life, which is the very thing that grants you true meaningful purpose and a legacy that actually matters after you're dead, is to work together with the Holy Spirit by actively yielding to His work in you. That work comes in the three areas that we talked about last week.

The first is the area of 1) Love. That's where our faith becomes greater than our fear and allows Love to win. The second is the area of 2) Christlikeness. That's where our desire to be like Christ outweighs our fear-driven desire to make sure that we get our fair share and maybe just a pinch more. The third is the area of 3) ministry. That's where we choose to allow God to touch others through us because we are so sure of His faithfulness that we lose our fear.

The mixture of all three areas is needed for a Christian to grow into the Christian they are intended to be. It's a work, a work of the Holy Spirit to, and in, and through, us that is made possible only with our active participation in the process. We must be intentional about allowing the Holy Spirit to change our

perspective, to renew our mind, to enable our growth, to encourage in us fearless faithfulness that can be used to build the Kingdom.

God takes you as you are and redirects everything that makes you who you are into good. That's sort of important. Again, God's not going to erase your past, He is going to repurpose it, if you will allow Him to. That's the real meaning of Romans 8:28, as Peterson translates, "That's why we can be so sure that every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good," and as Mounce elucidates, "God directs the affairs of life in such a way that, for those who love him, the outcome is always beneficial. The "good" of which Paul spoke is not necessarily what we think is best, but as the following verse implies, the good is conformity to the likeness of Christ."

Once we get that straight we can embrace what God has done for us and what He's doing in us. That's life altering. We desire what God desires, and we know that what He desires most is building His Kingdom. That means taking care of those already Saved and Saving those who are not already Saved. Both are accomplished by God through His Saved people through a variety of ministries, or Holy Spirit Gifts.

This is our Christian vocation, and it is the only thing that has any true eternal significance. It gives human beings purpose. Purpose that transcends time and is the legacy that you will bear forever. Think of that... For all eternity you will be known for the Christian ministry legacy that you allow the Holy Spirit to build in you during your earthly life. That should be sobering.

MENU

Melancholic, Phlegmatic,



Welcome.

As a follower of Jesus, exploring and exercising your spiritual gifting is a vital and exciting part of your spiritual journey. This site is designed as a tool to help you discern the spiritual gifts God has given you.

"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord." - 1 Cor. 12:4-5

View list of gifts

Services

Determine your gifts

The gifts test is a free, brief but in-depth survey. Your results are private and you can share them if you ask us to.

Take test

Sanguine, Choleric.

Bible Sprout | Online Bible | Hebrew Bible | Apocrypha | English Bible

SPIRITUAL GIFTS TEST

What are your gifts? Discover your spiritual gifts and how to apply them to your daily life.

What are spiritual gifts?
The apostle Paul wrote about them in 1 Corinthians 12. He used the Greek word *charismata* (1 Cor. 12:4).

- They are God's supernatural gifts to His church (1 Cor. 12:1)
- They are given to believers to help them minister to one another (1 Cor. 12:10)
- They are given to believers to help them witness to the world (1 Cor. 12:12)
- They are given to believers to help them build up the church (1 Cor. 12:13)
- They are given to believers to help them glorify God (1 Cor. 12:14)

Click Here to Begin Your Spiritual Gifts Survey.

What are the Types of Spiritual Gifts?

There are 27 types of spiritual gifts mentioned in 1 Corinthians 12 and Romans 12.

1. Wisdom

WHAT'S COVERED ON THIS PAGE?

- WHAT ARE SPIRITUAL GIFTS?
- WHAT ARE THE TYPES OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS?
- SPIRITUAL GIFTS TEST
- KNOW YOUR GIFTS
- DISCOVER YOUR GIFTS
- KNOW YOUR GIFTS
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In understanding that goal there have been a number of programs foisted upon Christians to find their talent, or ability, or their personality type, in order to find their ministry best fit, or to discover the Gift that they should strive for or expect. Things like the S.H.A.P.E.

Assessment and the Christian D.I.S.C Personality test, are used to match a person with their personal ministry.

Talk about self-focus... It's of almost no value at all and may be of some harm in that it is a focus on the person and their potential, rather than on submitting to whatever God might have in store.

All you really need to know is that you are a much bigger mess than you realize, but that God can literally do anything. Pray, yield, be intentional, be willing, be available, and be active. Try things, adjust, grow, learn, and enjoy being of use in whatever capacity it happens to be for now. You'll likely wear many hats on your journey with the Lord.



2) Winsome: Peter didn't preach to hear himself talk, or to earn a paycheck, or make himself feel better about himself, or to satisfy the desire of his friends, or to itch the ears of his audience. Peter preached the Truth, but he did it as palatably, as appealingly, as alluringly, as enticingly, as possible. His goal was for his audience to positively respond to his message and so he carefully, and very humbly crafted it in order to avoid alienating anyone unnecessarily.

Believe me, the Gospel itself is so utterly offensive to self-focused worldly people that angering and alienating them requires no help at all. My dear friends the fastest way to make an enemy is to tell someone

that they are “incredibly wicked by nature and that every intent of the thoughts of their heart is only evil continually,” to quote Genesis 6:5. Further, that “all have sinned and therefore fall short” (Romans 3:23). That for such people there is “no excuse, there is no defense” (Romans 1:20), and that all that remains for them is “a terrifying expectation of judgment and the fury of a fire which will consume the adversaries” (Hebrews 10:27). Because the Bible clearly declares that, “There is no righteous person, not even one; There is no one who understands, There is no one who seeks out God; they have All turned aside, together they have become Corrupt; There is no one who does good, There is not even one.” “Their throat is an open grave, With their tongues they keep deceiving,” “The venom of Asps is under their lips”; “Their mouth is full of cursing and bitterness”; “Their feet are swift to shed blood, 16Destruction and misery are in their paths, And they have not known the way of peace.” “There is no fear of God before their eyes” (Romans 3:10–18).

Jesus explained the phenomenon in John 7:7, where He said, “the world hates Me because I testify about it, that its deeds are evil.” The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the greatest possible news in the universe and yet to those who are proud it is the most offensive concept

conceivable. You don't need to make it even harder for them to accept.

Because you see that the entire point of preaching is to reach people, not to drive them away. Your job is to preach life, not death, love, not hate, peace, not war, forgiveness, not condemnation.

How do I know that from Peter's sermon? The scoffers in the crowd jeered that the disciples were drunk on new wine. Peter could have retaliated and jeered right back. He could have taken offense and gone on the attack. He could have gone into a lengthy defense of the disciples' drinking habits. Instead, he turned it into a joke without making the scoffers the butt of the joke.

Peter turned it into a humorous and inoffensive comeback that made his point without alienating his audience. He did that to have the best chance possible of getting those scoffers to actually listen to him and at the same time diffused the tension of conflict for the rest of his audience. He created comfort and affinity with the people who had shown interest, which encouraged them to remain interested.

Peter's opening comments were designed to reach the audience and draw them in. It was winsome.



3) Biblical: The first thing Peter did after establishing rapport with his audience was to take them right to the Scriptures. He directly quoted Joel 2:28–32, Psalm 16:8–11, and Psalm 110:1 as well as alluding to multiple other Bible passages.

Peter didn't get up and share his feeling on the matter, he didn't give his opinion on the political landscape, he didn't provide a self-help guide to better living, he didn't wax poetic about the changing social norms, and he didn't tell everyone that they were basically good the way they were and only needed a little tweak to be

perfect. Peter proclaimed the Bible and then explained what it meant – that's called expository preaching.



4) Focused on Jesus: That's Christocentric or Christ-centered preaching. Christianity is always about Jesus and anytime we deviate from that central point of the Gospel we have drifted into man-made nonsense that will always focus on man to the detriment of Christ.

Everything Peter talked about was centered on the Savior.



5) Boldness: We've already touched on this throughout. Peter denied Jesus three times because he was afraid of people. Here the Spirit-filled and anointed Peter has no fear at all. It's easy to preach to the choir, comfortable to share with people who basically agree, witness to people who want to hear, but to preach to people who might pick up rocks and start throwing them at you with deadly intent is something else again.

It's no idle threat as Stephen found out a little while later. When a preacher fears man he alters his sermon beyond being winsome into the realm of being manipulative.

Here's what I mean... A preacher fears man when he is afraid of a negative response to his message, whether that's a negative response of physical violence, or imprisonment, or censure, or loss of income, or loss of status, or loss of friendship, or simply the loss of rapport and agreement with the audience.

When that fear is allowed to influence what the preacher preaches then the preaching is a manipulation of the Truth in order to manipulate the audience to agree with the preacher.

Watch any televangelist work their audience and you will see this double manipulation in action. I could actually point out a few preachers in our valley who are guilty of the same crime. Alêtheia has lost members precisely because I spoke Truth instead of speaking what their itching ears wanted to hear.

It is tempting to give people what they want but a preacher must always fear God far more than they fear anything else or the Message will suffer. Peter wanted to connect with his audience, he wanted them to accept the Gospel, and he crafted his presentation to

do that, but he fearlessly proclaimed the Truth without alteration.

When you do all that... When you are winsome and also honest, most people will react poorly to you, but what do you expect? Jesus rhetorically asked, “Does the world hate you? Remember that it hated me first” (John 15:18). What keeps you silent about Jesus? When you do talk about Jesus what makes you go along with a conversation that twists His Truth? Is it a manipulation of the message to manipulate others into liking the message and therefore liking you? Please understand that it is impossible to speak God’s Truth to the world and have the world love you – impossible.



6) Challenging the Mindset: This is one of the more important concepts in preaching that was a given for the vast majority of human history. It was the Renaissance leading into the Enlightenment that brought Modernity and changed things a bit. That was followed by Pentecostalism and now Postmodernity.

No one likes philosophy, but the ideas of the eggheads on high really do filter down and affect the way societies think. What has changed is the validation of an emotional appeal as opposed to a rational appeal.

Proponents of the emotional appeal correlate it with the work of the Holy Spirit. As such, the fierier, more demonstrative, wilder, and less prepared a sermon, the more Spirit-filled the messenger must be and so the more Holy the message. People equate what I normally do up here as teaching and then when I get off my notes and get passionate... Well, then I'm finally preaching.

Contrary to popular opinion the Holy Spirit is not the seat of God's emotion – the Holy Spirit is the seat of God's rationality. The Holy Spirit renews the human mind, never the human emotion. Change a person's perspective and their emotions will follow.

The notion that preaching is just teaching and not truly anointed preaching unless it's emotional and off-the-cuff is the result of secular philosophy intruding into Christianity.

What Peter did on Pentecost was in line with what Jesus had done before him and what Paul and others did after him... He shined the Light of Jesus to illuminate the thinking of his audience. Peter's sermon was 100 percent rational. He was trying to get his audience to understand with their mind, not with their feelings. Change a person's thinking and their emotions will follow.

Any manipulative person can whip an audience up into an emotional response and as we have seen from decades of preachers doing just that. We know that people who respond emotionally to an emotional appeal do not stay the course once they get a different feeling.

Christianity isn't about how you feel, it's about what you believe. The Apostle Paul declared "in church I would rather speak five words with my mind in order to

instruct others, than ten thousand words in a tongue” (1 Corinthians 14:19).



I'll leave you with one last thought. The Holy Spirit descended and enabled Peter to preach a 1spirit-led 2winsome 3Biblical sermon that entirely 4focused on Jesus with 5boldness by 6challenging the mindset of his audience. And as a result, “about three thousand souls” were Saved. and then Baptized into the Body of Christ in the Name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Remember that Pentecost above all else was a celebration of God covenanting with His people. Moses came down from Sinai with the Law of the Covenant

and when he arrived at the camp, he found the people worshipping a golden calf. As a result, we read in Exodus 32:27&28, “This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘Each man strap a sword to his side. Go back and forth through the camp from one end to the other, each killing his brother and friend and neighbor.’ ” The Levites did as Moses commanded, and that day about three thousand of the people died.”

On that Day of Pentecost, God reversed what He did at the Tower of Bable and He reversed what He did at the foot of Sinai. God is good and He is on the move... The question for us is will we join Him and be part of His workforce building His Kingdom?





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Visit the website ~ www.myaletheia.com

Like us on Facebook (aletheiachristianfellowship) Listen on PodBean (Aletheia Christian Fellowship)

Emails: pastor@myaletheia.com, stacey.sundt@myaletheia.com

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1) Spirit-led: The Holy Spirit descended upon them and every one of them, clergy, and laity, male, and female, wealthy, and poor, was equipped to _____ and _____ they did.

Peter was _____ by the Holy Spirit into a _____ of the Gospel and yet, Peter was always a take charge kind of guy... What had really changed?

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2) Winsome: Peter preached the Truth, but he did it as appealingly as possible. His goal was for his audience to respond positively.

The Gospel itself is so utterly offensive that alienating others requires no help from us (Genesis 6:5, John 7:7, Romans 1:20, 3:10–18, 3:23, Hebrews 10:27).

The scoffers in the crowd jeered and Peter turned it into a joke.

3) Biblical: Peter took them directly to the Scriptures by directly quoting Joel 2:28–32, Psalm 16:8–11, and Psalm 110:1 as well as alluding to multiple other Bible passages.

4) Focused on Jesus: That's Christocentric preaching.

5) Boldness: A preacher fears man when he is afraid of a negative response to his message. When that fear is allowed to influence what the preacher preaches then the preaching is a manipulation of the Truth in order to manipulate the audience to agree with the preacher (John 15:18).

6) Challenging the Mindset: Contrary to popular opinion the Holy Spirit is not the seat of God's emotion – the Holy Spirit is the seat of God's rationality. The Holy Spirit renews the human mind, never the human emotion. Change a person's perspective and their emotions will follow.

Write a brief note – detach and place in the offering, or the prayer box, or give it to a Deacon or Elder.

Name _____ Address _____
Phone _____ Email _____