

Only Jesus!
You started so well!
W/C 13th Oct 2024

In the early church, one of the key pieces of evidence that a person was a true believer, was that they were filled with the Spirit.

The marker of God's acceptance into God's family was no longer circumcision but the filling of the Spirit, which crossed all ethnic boundaries.

The early church had a deep dependence on the Holy Spirit. He convicted people of their sins, led them to the truth of salvation and empowered them for daily living.

The Galatians had experienced the life-transforming power of the Spirit, but their confidence in Him was undermined by false teachers.

Welcome: What do you understand about the Trinity? Discuss! – But don't spend too long!

Worship: Spend some time in worship. Plan an act of worship that is appropriate to your group.

Word: Looking at God's word together:

Galatians 3:1-5

1. Why do you think that Paul began with such strong words (3:1)?
2. Paul references each person of the Trinity. What does this tell us about the different roles each person plays in revealing the truth about salvation?
3. Why do you think that the Galatians had begun to rely on their own efforts, in their spiritual walk, rather than relying on the Spirit (3:3)?
4. It's easy to blame others for putting up stumbling blocks to our spiritual growth. In what ways do we need to take responsibility to nurture our own spiritual walk?
5. How much dependence do we put on the Holy Spirit for our daily walk with Christ?

6. What does experiencing the Holy Spirit look like?

Witness: AW Tozer said, *"If the Holy Spirit was withdrawn from the church today, 95 percent of what we do would go on and no one would know the difference."*

What does this tell us about the effectiveness, or not, of the church today?

Prayer:

- Pray that God will continue to build his holy character in your life.
- Pray for the witness of the church.
- Pray for those on the mission field
- Pray for those attending the current Alpha Course.