



Your Unseen Helper – Message 3

Warm-up

As a child what is something you couldn't see but you knew was real? What made it real to you?

Overview

In the third message of the *Unseen* series, we discuss how you can experience a deeper love for Jesus, and see life-changing results as you welcome the Holy Spirit's abiding presence and power in your life.

Word and Application

Today, we look at *Your Unseen Helper*, coach and friend in this world – the Holy Spirit. Remember the battles, fears and conflicts we face are not simply rooted in random events. We live in a spiritual world.

This Sunday is Pentecost Sunday. Pentecost was a feast in the Bible celebrated 50 days after Passover. The celebration was in honor of God's gracious provision from the harvest- it was a first fruits feast. It was also on the Day of Pentecost that the Holy Spirit was poured out in Acts 2.

Read Acts 2:1-4.

- If you were there at that moment, how do you think you would have reacted? How does this passage empower you as a follower of Christ?

In our culture there is a deep hunger for spiritual things, spiritual power, and the unseen, spirit world. You see it at bookstores and in magazines; you see it on TV, on talk shows. People are talking about positive and negative energy. This is not a new issue. The Apostle Paul faced the same things. How did he deal with it? Paul didn't just use words to battle the spiritual realm, he demonstrated it with the power of the Holy Spirit.

Read 1 Thessalonians 1:5a, 1 Corinthians 2:4-5, 2 Kings 2:14.

Do you want more of the power of God in your life, for this generation even? Do you want to be a person who can help hurting people? If yes then you need the power of the Holy Spirit daily in your life.

- Name an area of life that you need extra help in? How could having the Holy Spirit involved in this area help? Have you had someone in your life that modeled the principle of walking in the power of the Holy Spirit? Explain.

1. Promises

Often times we may think that since we are a Christian that is enough. But God shows us in His Word that there is more. We are missing out on a huge part of the Christian life if we don't tap into the promise of the power of the Holy Spirit.

Read Matthew 3:11 and Acts 1:8.

- How do these verses describe the Holy Spirit? What would your life look like if you were to allow the power of the Holy Spirit in every situation you go through in your day? How would that impact others around you? How would that impact your purpose here on earth?

2. Problems

There have been some misconceptions about the person and power of the Holy Spirit.

- What are some of the misconceptions you've grown up with concerning the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit has been:

- A. Ignored** - Some people just don't want to discuss the Holy Spirit because they think it isn't important.
- B. Misunderstood** - The Holy Spirit is not an "it". The Holy Spirit is a person. All throughout scripture has been seen as the word He or Him. We need to be sure to give reverence and respect and treat Him as a person. **Read John 16:13.**
 - How is knowing that the Holy Spirit is a person more powerful?
- C. Resisted** - Because of some charismatic extremes we might have a tendency to devalue our dependence on the power of the Holy Spirit in our daily lives.
 - Give an example of a time in your life that you are confident the Holy Spirit was speaking to you or you saw the power of the Holy Spirit before your eyes- but you downplayed it?
 - Why does the enemy want us to think that it wasn't the Holy Spirit?
 - What would happen if you started recognizing all the times you see the power of the Holy Spirit in your life? How would that empower you as a believer?

Do these or any misconceptions remain an obstacle to your walking in the power of the Holy Spirit?

3. Practical Fulfillment

The fulfillment of the promise of God's power is found in the *baptism* of the Holy Spirit. The baptism of the Spirit is the empowering work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer for service. While all of us receive the Holy Spirit at the point of conversion, we see in Scripture a pattern where the early believers were *continually* being filled with the Holy Spirit.

- **Read Acts 4:31, Acts 19:1-6 & Ephesians 5:18.** Name some examples of practical ways the Holy Spirit can be applied and seen as noted in these passages of Scripture?

Life Challenge

How Do We Receive the Holy Spirit? So often we are wondering what God wants us to do in various areas of our life. We might even get frustrated because we can't hear Him. But what is happening could be that we never really knocked on the door and asked to receive this special gift He has for every believer. **Read Luke 11:9-13.** Ask the Holy Spirit to become of your daily life today.

Prayer

Dear Lord - thank you for providing your sweet Holy Spirit as a gift to me. Thank you for the comfort and power it will bring me from this day forward. Thank you for the overflowing of your Holy Spirit in my life so it will reach and build lives around me. Pray for the specific needs of the group.