

Big Promises about the Spirit: Their Primary Fulfillment

Date / Theme	Key Passages	Key Themes
1/6 - Introduction to John 15:26-16:15	<p>John 15:26-16:15, esp. 15:26-27</p> <p>Matt. 24:14; Rev. 6:9, 12:17; Luke 21:12-13; II Timothy 1:8</p> <p>Acts 5:31-33 (Rom. 10:14; II Cor. 5:18-20)</p>	<p>- Jesus says:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I'm leaving you. • Difficult times are coming for you. • I am sending the Helper to you. <p>- Helper (parakletos) is someone who will come alongside and counsel, defend, assist, comfort, strengthen - give any kind of help.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You will testify about me. <p>- The world knows about Jesus only as His followers testify about Him.</p> <p>- John 15:26-27 The Spirit's speaking and our speaking meet together and lives are changed.</p>
1/13 - How Do You Know Jesus?	<p>John 14:7, 16-19, 21-23, 26 John 15:26-27 John 16:7-15</p>	<p>- eye witnesses passed along their testimony to others</p> <p>- eye witnesses made a written record of their testimony, and the written record has been passed down until today</p> <p>- the Spirit guided the eye witnesses into the truth, disclosing the things of Jesus to them, empowering them for witness, and guiding their written testimony as God's Word</p> <p>- the Spirit opens spiritually blind eyes in each generation to see and know the living Jesus through the written Word as it is spoken by witnesses</p>
1/20 - The Story of the New Testament	<p>John 14:26; 15:26; 16:12-15</p> <p>John 14:25-26; John 15:26-27</p> <p>John 1:14, 19:26-35, 21:24; I John 1:1-3; I Peter 1:12; Acts 5:32; II Peter 1:16-18; Acts 3:15, 10:40-42; Luke 5:27-29; Acts 12:2, 26:9-18; I Cor. 15:3-11; Acts 4:13, 20; I John 1:4; John 21:24-25; II Peter 3:15-16; Revelation 1:1-10</p> <p>Luke 1:1-4; Hebrews 2:3-4</p> <p>I Peter 1:12, 23-25; Hebrews 4:12; II Timothy 2:15, 3:16-17, 4:2; Hebrews 2:1; II Peter 2:2; I John 1:1-4</p>	<p>- Jesus gave big promises, that the Spirit would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • teach them all things, • bring to their remembrance all that Jesus said to them, • testify about Jesus, • disclose to them the other things Jesus needed to teach them, guiding them into all the truth, • disclose to them what was to come, • and glorify Jesus. <p>- Directly, the promises were for a small group of disciples who had been with Jesus from the beginning.</p> <p>- The promises were fulfilled by the Spirit through that primary set of diligent witnesses: John, Peter, Matthew, James and the rest of the 12, Paul</p> <p>- Also through a secondary set of witnesses: John Mark, Luke, author of Hebrews</p> <p>- The result of the Spirit's work was very powerful: the word of God / gospel into which angels long to look. If men like Luke, Paul, Peter, or John could be with us this morning, might they plead with us to pay much closer attention to the Word?</p>

Big Promises about the Spirit: Their Ongoing Significance

Date / Theme	Key Passages	Key Themes
2/3 - Because of the promises, we have the truth and we must stand firm in it.	<p>John 16:1</p> <p>John 14:17, 15:26 John 14:26, 16:13</p> <p>Ephesians 2:19-20, 3:4-8; Hebrews 13:7-9; II Peter 3:1-2; I John 2:21; II John 9-11; Jude 3, 17-18</p> <p>Jude 3; II Thes. 2:15; II Timothy 1:13-14, 2:2, 2:15, 3:13-17; 4:2-4; Titus 1:1-3, 9 Revelation 6:9; 12:11, 17</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jesus spoke these things that they might be kept from stumbling (i.e., stand firm). - Because of the Spirit's work, we have all the truth about Jesus that is necessary for us. - Just 15-25 years after Jesus returned to heaven, the NT writers were telling the Christians that they already had the truth. - There has always been a battle to silence the people who believe the Bible. Christians today are pressured to be silent because the Bible is seen as tolerant and hateful. - We must stand firm in the truth. God's truth has marched on through the generations as His people have stood firm.
2/10 - Because of the promises, we have power to testify.	<p>John 14:12, 15:8, 15:26-27 with Acts 1:4-8</p> <p>Ephesians 6:17; Hebrews 4:12-13; I Peter 1:23; John 3:3-8</p> <p>Acts 1:8</p> <p>Acts 2:4, 14, 21-22, 37, 40, 47; 3:26; 4:3-4, 8-12, 20, 29-31; 5:32-33, 42; 6:7-10; 8:1-5; 9:17-22; 28:30-31</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Acts 1:4 refers directly back to John 14-16 - Where is the Spirit's power for witness? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the Word. 2. In us. - What happens when a person is empowered by the Spirit? While there are widely varying manifestations of the Spirit in Acts, this seems to appear repeatedly and broadly: disciples empowered by the Spirit speak about Jesus with boldness and impact. - Believe in the Spirit's work; welcome the Spirit's work; saturate yourself in the word of Christ; take practical steps to be ready to speak it; and pray for the Spirit's work.
2/17 - Because of the promises, we can stay very close to Jesus (Part I).	<p>John 16:12-15 with I Cor. 2:10-12</p> <p>I Cor. 1:18-25 I Cor. 1:26-31 I Cor. 2:1-5</p> <p>I Cor. 2:6-12</p> <p>I Cor. 2:16</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I Cor. 2 and John 16:12-15 both speak of the Spirit's work of revealing Jesus through the word: promised (John) and fulfilled (I Cor.). Background to I Cor. 2:6-12: God's power is not in a message that fits the world's wisdom (1:18-25), people who fit the world's wisdom (1:26-31), nor preaching that fits the world's wisdom (2:1-5). The Spirit has searched the deep things of God and freely revealed them for all Christians. By the Spirit we can know God. We have the mind of Christ available to us.
2/24 - Because of the promises, we can stay very close to Jesus (Part II).	<p>John 15:4</p> <p>I John 2:18, 20-21, 26-27; I Cor. 2:10-12; John 14:17-23, 15:15; Ephesians 1:15-19, 3:14-19</p> <p>II Cor. 3:15-18; Romans 8:12-14; Gal. 5:16-26</p> <p>John 16:14</p>	<p>How does the Spirit help you stay very close to Jesus as you read the Bible?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Knowing: knowing <i>about</i>, and knowing <i>personally</i> 2. Changing: led by the Spirit <i>away</i> from sin and <i>closer</i> to Jesus, producing the fruit of Christlikeness. <p>So that ultimately Jesus is glorified.</p>

