

## **DO NOT GRIEVE OR QUENCH THE HOLY SPIRIT - Read (Ephesians 4:17-5:5 / 1 Thess. 5:12-24)**

### **Who is the Holy Spirit and what does he do? (know this maybe - start here anyway)**

- H.S. All of God - in Us/one that raised Jesus Christ at work in us (Ephesians 1:17-23 / Romans 8:11 )
- convicts/seals forever/helps/comforts/guides/counsels/reveals truth/empowers/prays when we don't know how/
- Gift-giver - so church can accomplish it's purpose/ Fruit producer - so Christ can be formed in and live through us
- his present role in church age = to glorify Christ -means bring glory to God by making Christ alive in and through us
- Spirit is a distinct and equal person in Trinity - Bible calls him: Spirit of God & Christ-Rom.8:9 /Father-Matt.10:20/

### **Point: He is God and He is in us - He is all we need to please God - all we need to...**

- grow & remain in rel. with our God / to be the church who builds his Kingdom

So we are told not to quench the Holy Spirit.

### **Quenching something means suppressing or stopping it from doing what it is meant to do.**

- so if you quench or suppress a fire what do you do? Bible pictures H.S. as the fire of God in us / cons. fire
- a fire that is meant to do two things - cause us to **burn with passion for God / burn away impurities**
- and so God tells us, don't quench the Holy Spirit - don't suppress/put his fire out

### **So how can we, how do we quench the Holy Spirit?**

- we quench the Spirit when we refuse to believe / when we refuse to trust /**don't accept & obey His word**
- He is quenched when we do not allow God to work & reveal Himself the way that He wants to in us or through us
- He is quenched when we don't allow his work in our lives to bring glory to Jesus
- when we act in our own strength, when we do what we know is wrong, when we refuse his help we quench him
- simply put - when we do not let the Spirit do what God's put him in our lives to do we quench the Spirit

### **Why is He quenched?** -how can weak little us, stop an all powerful, all knowing, ever present God that is a consuming fire

- the truth is in our strength we can't, if God wanted to force himself on us there's no one that could stop him
- but God doesn't want to bully us into obedience - that is slavery and demands fear driven obedience
- God the Spirit allows himself to be quenched because he wants to work in us, in an environment of reciprocal love
- the surrender God longs for is a surrender motivated by the love of God given to us in Christ

we're also told not to grieve the Holy Spirit...(Ephesians 4:30)

### **Grieving is something that can only be done to a person - more than just upsetting/disappointing them**

- to grieve someone is to hurt them in the deepest sense (when after they give everything, they're rejected)

### **So how we grieve the Holy Spirit? how do we Hurt him that deeply**

- Ephesians 4&5 says we hurt him when we think/act in a sinful manner - when instead of following him/follow flesh
- the passage we read gives us examples of how we do this (don't have to go over it again, it's living in sin/by flesh)
- it's as simple as leaning on our own understanding instead of trusting his direction

### **Why is He grieved - Why do these actions hurt him deeply?**

- the Holy Spirit is the one through whose power Jesus was risen from the dead
- everything Jesus accomplished for us in his life, death & resurrection was accomplished through Spirit's power
- that same Spirit has been given to us as God's greatest gift of love proving that we are God's children
- when we the people who have been freed from sin and death by the Spirit's power at work in Jesus
- when we who have this same spirit alive in us to be everything we need to please, serve and glorify God
- when we go back to our sinful lifestyles, when we say yes to the flesh/remain unrepentant
- we might as well tell the Holy Spirit, it's not enough, I don't care that you did all this for me, I reject your love.
- Hebrews 6 says if we remain in this place - like we're crucifying Christ all over again/subjecting Christ to pub. disgra
- can you see why that grieves the Spirit, to have done all he did only to be rejected - still in love he makes a way...

Imagine you were in jail for auto theft...

- but then you got out and had no money, so I gave you \$25000 to buy a new car, instead you steal one/get arrested

### **The problem with quenching and grieving Spirit is not just that it hurts him,**

- what grieves him most is you're trading all he sacrificed for you, to go back to your old self / old master
- as a result both quenching & grieving the Spirit hinder the Spirit's ability to work in you and through you
- both hinder the experience of X in you - victory, character, fruit of Spirit / the mission of God through you

### **What does God want instead...**

- we looked at this the first week, he wants a life lived according to the Holy Spirit / led by the Spirit
- why, because he's done so much to make this possible in your life, because it's what is best for you
- it's the road that leads the believer closer to God and purity, and farther away from Satan, the world and sin.
- in our passage this morning he says instead of the actions that quench and grieve the Spirit
- let the Spirit lead and fill you with actions that release the Spirit in your life and bring true joy to the Spirit and you

### **How do we experience this?**

- put off your old self / be made new in the attitude of your minds / put on the new self (how???)
- stop lying / speak the truth in love / in your anger don't sin / don't stay angry - accept joy of the Lord
- don't give the devil a foothold by remaining in sin, by not repenting, by lying/deceiving yourself - repent trust him
- don't steal, / work so you may have something to share with those in need - make loving God/others priority
- get rid of any unwholesome talk - speak only what is helpful and benefits others - give control of your mouth to God
- get rid of bitterness, rage, anger, brawling, slander, every form of malice - give control of self to Spirit - his fruit
- be kind and compassionate - forgiving others as in Christ God forgave you - let your actions flow out of what X did
- rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances - can't do this without Spirit's power - will change all
- don't treat prophecies with contempt but test them all, hold on to what is good, reject what is evil
- trust God to sanctify you (means: LET HIM make you holy), trust him to make you blameless at Christ's coming
- trust that he is faithful and he will do it - that means that we give control over to him, so he can work in/through us

### **But what do I do if I've quenched/grieved the Spirit? How do I make it right?**

- I've been saying this over and over and over and over for a year - you can't
- you can't in the sense that if you feel sorry enough, do enough good things, some penance, you'll make it ok
- God has made the way possible for us to be made right with him
- His name is Jesus - if you've never gotten right with God - you need Jesus' sacrifice to be applied to you
- it's applied to you through faith - you must believe, but more than just a mental thing, your belief must lead to surr.
- if you're a Christian and you've quenched/grieved the Spirit we talked about this last week - John tells us...
- confess your sins and God is just and faithful to forgive you your sins and cleanse you from ALL unrighteousness
- James adds to that - if you're really serious and you find yourself not sticking to it...
  - don't just make a casual confession to God - confess your sin to someone else,
  - and have them help you stick to your confession - there's no shame in this, only strength

### **It's our choice every single day...**

- will I live, am I living my life in a way that is quenching or is grieving the Holy Spirit?
- will I live, am I living my life in a way where the Spirit is released to shine through me?
- will I live, am I living my life in a way where the my actions enabled by Spirit become pleasing to God
- will I live, am I living my life in a way that is driven by the love God lavished on me in Christ (love because i was loved)

### **The Spirit that raised Jesus Christ from the dead has been poured out on you by God himself**

- he seals you forever guaranteeing your relationship as a son or daughter of God
- and he empowers you daily to live the life you are now able to live in Him through Christ for Gods' glory

### **if you'd like to commit or recommit yourself to living that life would you stand with me?**

- give you a few moments to let you tell God what this means between him and you
- in your heart just speak to him as if you were speaking to your best friend
  - maybe you need to confess and repent of a sin and you need to tell him and ask for his strength
  - maybe you need to get help from a Xian brother or sister to help you move forward - tell him
  - maybe you need the holy Spirit to come set you on fire for Christ anew, or purify you - tell him

Pray