Title: I’ve got Jesus. Why do I need the Spirit?

Summary Idea: The Holy Spirit is sent by Jesus to His followers and is a necessary support for the Christian life.

1. Open:
   What do you think?
   “We may as well face it: the whole level of spirituality among us is low. We have measured ourselves by ourselves until the incentive to seek higher plateaus in the things of the Spirit is all but gone... (We) have imitated the world, sought popular favor, manufactured delights to substitute for the joy of the Lord and produced a cheap and synthetic power to substitute for the power of the Holy Ghost.”
   -A. W. Tozer

Let’s get rolling by listing some of our beliefs about the Holy Spirit. (Even if you don’t consider yourself a theologian, most of us have at least a few ideas about who the Holy Spirit is and what He does.)

Do you think your beliefs are shaped more by the Scriptures or by what you’ve come to experience as the normal Christian life? What causes you to think that way?

2. Video – Chapter 1

3. This week’s session is titled: I’ve got Jesus. Why do I need the Spirit?
   How can our dependence on Jesus as all sufficient prompt that kind of thinking in our lives?
   How is that thinking inconsistent with Scripture?
The Holy Spirit is sent by Jesus to His followers and is a necessary support for the Christian life.

John 14:15-17

John 16:7

4. How does Scripture describe the Spirit-filled life?
   a. Acts 1:4-8
   b. Acts 4:31
   c. Romans 8:12-17
   d. Romans 8:26-27
   e. Romans 15:13
   f. 1 Corinthians 2:12-14
   g. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11
   h. 1 Corinthians 12:7-11
   i. 2 Corinthians 3:16-18
   j. Ephesians 3:14-19

If you disregarding your own experiences and just read these passages, what would you expect to observe as the Holy Spirit entered a person’s life?

For so many people in the church today, everyday life does not match these Biblical descriptions. Why do you think that is?

5. The Holy Spirit in our lives should result in a NOTICEABLE difference.
According to Galatians 5:16-25, what does it look like to walk by the Spirit?

Based on what Paul says here, what should distinguish a Spirit-filled person from a non-Christian?

“If the Holy Spirit is being neglected in our lives, it is any wonder that we don’t look much different from the rest of the world? Too often we work in our own strength to be the kind of people who stand out—the kind of people who look like Jesus. This is the right goal, but when we try to do this without relying on the Spirit, we’re missing the whole point. It is a goal only the Holy Spirit within us can accomplish. Doesn’t it strike you as odd that although we want to live out the attributes of Galatians 5:22-23, we don’t rely on the Holy Spirit to produce the fruit of the Spirit.

Look at Galatians 5:16: “But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desire of the flesh”. Perhaps we’ve gotten so caught up in trying to live the Christian life that we’ve overlooked the Source. Life-change comes through the power of the Holy Spirit. At times we try so hard—but if we have forgotten the Holy Spirit, then we’re missing the whole point.”

- Francis Chan

Based on your experience, what good things can we accomplish merely through human strength?

If the Spirit works through us, how should the supernatural results differ from what we can accomplish on our own?

6. The Goal — “The goal of this book is not to completely explain the Spirit or to go back to the apostolic age. The goal is to learn to live faithfully today.” “Hopefully you will learn something new about the Holy Spirit in this book, my prayer is that it will draw you into deeper communion with the Spirit and greater experience of His power and presence in your life.”

7. Questions