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**Sermon: *“The Mission & Ministry of the Holy Spirit”***

**Scripture: John 16:5-15**

Pastor Stephen Schultze

Sunday, July 8, 2018

**Introduction:**

* Jesus had told his disciples that his departure would be good for them (John 14), but the disciples were unconvinced.

**“We often mourn for things, which, if we knew the end of them,**

**would afford us occasion for joy.”** (Charles Simeon)

1. **Jesus Promised the Holy Spirit to Work Through His Disciples to Accomplish the Gospel Mission:**
   * The Holy Spirit convinces individuals to see their sin through the light of Jesus Christ.
   * The Holy Spirit convinces the world of empty righteousness and of the precious righteousness of Jesus. (Isaiah 64:6)
   * The Holy Spirit convinces individuals that apartfrom repentance and faith, every person’s eternal destiny will be bound to Satan’s doom.
2. **Jesus Promised the Holy Spirit to Work in His Disciples to Transform Them to Gospel Maturity.**

**How does the Holy Spirit accomplish the work of transformation of every believer?**

* **Regeneration:** The Spirit gives spiritual LIFE that we might receive the truth. (1 Corinthians 2:12-14)
* **Illumination**: The Spirit gives spiritual SIGHT that we might understand and believe. (John 14:16-17)
* **Affirmation**: The Spirit affirms the truth of God’s Word and God’s Work that we might be encouraged and have hope. (1 John 3:24)

**On this Gospel journey, the indwelling Holy Spirit leads us into…**

1. Personal fellowship with Jesus.
2. Personal transformation of character into Jesus’ likeness.
3. Personal affirmation of our relationship with Christ and all of it’s glorious benefits!

**What does the Holy Spirit accomplish through the productive work of the Gospel in the world and the effective work of sanctification in the lives of believers? (v. 14)**

**What does the Holy Spirit utilize to accomplish all of this work? (v. 15)**

**How should believers respond to Jesus’ promises?**

1. Thankfulness for the gift of the promised Holy Spirit.
2. Joy at being made channels of the work of the Holy Spirit.
3. Confidence in the convincing work of the all-powerful Holy Spirit.
4. Dependence upon the maturing work of the all-wise Holy Spirit.

**Questions to Consider:**

1. Why were the disciples sorrowful? Can you relate to their feelings?
2. What are some of the advantages of the risen and ascended Jesus for us today?
3. How have you experienced the convicting work of the Holy Spirit? Can you share a specific instance and how it affected you?
4. What is especially comforting about the promise of the Holy Spirit as our guide?
5. In what ways do people misuse the promise of the Holy Spirit as our guide?
6. What does this passage teach us about the Trinity? How do those truths encourage you?
7. Can you share some specific ways that you have observed the work of transformation through the Holy Spirit and the Word of God in the past few weeks in your life?