

David McClister - Lessons on the Holy Spirit: Lesson 1

Well, it is a blessing to be with you here this morning and Lord willing tomorrow. I want to thank the elders for their kind invitation to be with you and to share these lessons with you. I've looked forward to this immensely ever since the invitation came to me. I remember many of you from the last time I was here and appreciate you so much and appreciate Kenny and the good work that he is doing among you as well. And so, I'm just delighted to be here and very grateful for this opportunity. We're going to talk for four sessions today and tomorrow about the Holy Spirit. That is the topic that I've been asked to address. And I do want to commend the elders here and all of you for your interest in this topic, because it's not the kind of topic that we talk a lot about. I sometimes wonder if we don't talk enough about it. I think there is a fear sometimes that we're going to say the wrong thing about it, or that we might come to the wrong conclusion about something or that we might read a Bible verse incorrectly. And I think that that fear is part of a larger thing that we've all come to be part of. I think, from one perspective, the spirit is probably the part of the Godhead, that makes the least sense to us. We can think about God, and we know what God did. God made a plan, a plan from the beginning of all things to save us from our sins and then Jesus came, and He executed that plan. I think for a lot of people, it's kind of like, okay, once the plan is executed, what else needs to be done, other than to wait for the end? And that kind of leaves the Spirit out of the picture? What does the Spirit have to do? Why does there have to be a Spirit in all of this? What does the Spirit do? Why does God have to provide it? Why does God have to send it? What is its role or its purpose in God's plan? And so, I think that's one of the reasons that this topic might be a little bit more mysterious to us then, perhaps say what we know about Jesus. But of course, also there are lots of false views about the spirit in the religious world at large. And I think it's just a shame that in modern culture, the Holy Spirit has so often been associated with emotional or irrational things. I think that most people who are not familiar with religion when they hear the phrase Holy Spirit, they think of people acting in some kind of crazy way. Because that is the impression that so much of the religious world has left about this topic. And so, for that reason, again, we're kind of afraid to touch that topic. We don't want to appear like those folks. We don't want people to think that we're in with them. But it does behoove us to ask the question, what does the Bible say about this? And of course, we always want to be very careful that we do not determine our beliefs by taking kind of the opposite view of what somebody else says. That's not how we find the truth. We find the truth by going to the Bible. And so, I'm going to attempt my best in the next couple of lessons here to share with you some things that I have learned from the Bible. And of course, it behooves you as listeners to test them. I certainly may be wrong about what I think in part or in whole, but I hope that we can sit down with an open Bible and think about some things for a moment or two this weekend.

So, we're going to begin with the basics. We're going to just kind of start at the beginning and we're going to ask what is a spirit? And once we've asked that we might be able to then talk about what is God's Spirit, or the Holy Spirit? And the moment we ask that question, we are kind of at a disadvantage. I think culturally because 2000 years ago in the Mediterranean culture of Jesus and the apostles, if you were to say the word spirit, everybody knew what you were talking about. Everybody believed that there was such a thing as spirit. But now 2000 years later, in 21st century America, at least, we live in this so-called scientific culture, in which talk about spirit doesn't really have any room. We don't talk about a person's spirit. And because we are unfamiliar with that concept, it's not part of our way of thinking about people. I think that's another reason that maybe we have trouble thinking about God's Spirit as well. I do want to show you this morning, though, that what the Bible is talking about when it talks about spirit is partially something that we still talk about in our culture today. We use different terms for it, but spirit overlaps some of the stuff that we already talked about. And I think we ought not be afraid to use the biblical terminology. And that's just my way of thinking about that.

So, we're going to start with some words, and the word for spirit and we're not going to have a lesson on the Greek language here, but I want to simply make this point that when the biblical authors sat down to write the biblical documents, they did not invent new words. They did not invent a new language. They used the languages and the words of the people of that time, words that already had meanings. And what the Bible authors did is they took those words, and they use them to express the truths of God and I hope to show you by the end of our first lesson today that what the Bible writers do is sometimes change the meaning of those words a little bit or add some new things to them, but they do not invent new words when talking about things like spirit. So, the Greek word, and, of course, there is a Hebrew term as well, in the Old Testament, we're going to focus a lot on the New Testament in our studies. The word that Paul and Jesus used was a word that denoted a particular kind of energy. It is the energy that they knew of as air that is in motion. And so, when the wind was blowing, or when you're standing close to somebody and you can feel the wind of their breath, the ancients believed that that was a kind of energy, and that's what they called Spirit. Now, the Greeks believed that it was kind of one of the elements of the world, that it was a thing and even though you cannot, you know, put it under a microscope or put it in a container. They knew that it was something that could be felt. It was something in their way of thinking at least, that was material; part of the material world.

But because it had movement, because it had life or energy, the Greeks believed that it was part human part natural and part divine, at the same time. And the important thing I think, for our study is that the Greeks believed that it is inside or was inside every living being, at least this was the observations that they could make that everything that lived, breathed. And so, in their primitive way of thinking, this air going in and out, this movement of air, was the spirit that was in living things. Just to give you an example of how the Greeks use this word, this is Plato, many of you have heard of the Greek philosopher Plato. He's talking here about the wind and the ocean. And he says, "the ocean oscillates. The waves go up and down, the air and the wind about it do the same." So the ancients knew that when the waves move that the air moved, "they follow the liquid (that is the wind and air follow the waves), both when it moves toward the other side of the Earth, and when it moves toward this side, and just as the breath of those who breathe blows the spirit in and out. So, the spirit there oscillates with the waves and causes terrible and irresistible blasts as it rushes in and out." So that's Plato trying to explain this energy, this force. It's like the wind that comes from the ocean. It's moving. And in the ancient way of thinking the ocean is alive, because it's always moving. And Plato is saying that the wind and the spirit is like that. In the Greek literature of the Ancients, they spoke of the breath of wind, or when vapors came out of the ground, they referred to that as the Earth exhaling. And so, to them, the Earth is a living thing that breathes in and out and has air moving about it all the time. And so, at the core of what the Greeks are thinking, about is a basic sense of energy, or power, or force. And that's important for us to know that when the ancients think about spirit, they're not thinking about some shadowy substance like a ghost. I think a lot of people equate spirits with ghosts today. But in the ancient world, spirit was a way of talking about a power and a force. So for example, people who were powerful public speakers, or people who had a lot of power about them, like you know the Emperor. They were believed to have a powerful spirit within them that they had a power or energy or force that enable them to do what they do. That, for example, is one of the reasons that the Corinthians couldn't make sense out of the Apostle Paul. Because Paul says, you remember in First Corinthians Chapter Two that he was not a powerful speaker. Paul says that my words were not in persuasive words of wisdom. He didn't use rhetoric. Paul was not the kind of guy that was just this, you know, silver tongued speaker. And yet he told the Corinthians that he had the spirit of God in him, and that he was speaking for God. And the Corinthians looked at that and said, Paul, those two things don't seem to go together. That if you've got the Spirit of God and you ought to be a better public speaker than you are, and it didn't make sense to them.

Spirit is therefore associated with life in the ancient way of thinking. The ancients thought that anything that is moving is alive. And so, the river, the creek, the stream that is running, the ancients believe there's life in that when you see a tree doing this out there, the ancients said, yeah, there, there's a spirit in there. And the unique quality of spirit is that it is invisible. The ancients also believed, quite naturally, that spirit can be shared, that you can have the spirit of a God in you because spirit is wind, spirit is breath. And so, as the wind from the gods comes that you can take it inside of you, or it can be transferred from one person to another. And the ancients believed that to receive the breath of a god was to receive some of the quality of that God. But also, the ancients knew, and you know, a lot of these observations are not, you know, just brilliant observations. They're kind of common sense. But the ancients knew that wind that moves can make sound. That breath makes sound that it is the breath that comes out of our mouths that make speech or word. And so, this is why the ancients believed that spirit and word were very closely tied together, that if you had a powerful spirit in you, you would have a powerful word. They believe, the pagans of course, believed that there were prophets among them, prophets for example, like the prophet for the god Apollo. And what was it that made the prophet of Apollo speak, it was the spirit of Apollo. And so, this emanated in words in their way of thinking. And the ancients believed that to receive the spirit of a God like a prophet was to receive true knowledge to receive truth itself. And because they believe that spirit is a material thing, they also believe that having the Spirit of God would have a physical effect on you. Now, the Bible writers don't say that, and I don't think the Bible writers necessarily believe that, but it's kind of interesting that that that idea does persist that there is a part of the religious world that still kind of believes that that spirit is somehow a thing that that comes into you and makes certain physical things happen.

Well, that's enough of the ancient background, what did the Bible writers think? Now again, the Bible writers did not invent new words. And so, they took a word that meant energy and power and wind and breath and air in motion. And they use that to talk about something relating to God. Of course, in the biblical way of thinking, spirit is not material. This is a big difference between the biblical writers and the pagans. The pagans said that the spirit is some kind of stuff. It's like an element in nature. But the Bible writer said, No, it's not an element of nature. It's not something natural. That spirit comes from God and because it comes from God, it does not have a material quality to it. But the biblical authors also believed that spirit is invisible. And because Spirit is invisible, it came also to include the idea of that which is heavenly. And it's not hard to figure out how they came to that conclusion. Just like heaven is invisible to us. So spirit is invisible. They simply connected the dots that spirit is unseen. Heaven is unseen. Spirit and heaven, in their way of thinking,

go together. And so, angels are sometimes in the Bible called spirits. Now, again, that doesn't mean that they are ghosts. It doesn't mean that they are these wispy, you know, beings of some kind. To say that they are spirits in the biblical way of thinking is to say that they are heavenly. Other heavenly beings are sometimes called spirits. Demons are called unclean spirits. But perhaps even more familiar to us in the New Testament, we have this word "spiritual". So, for example, Paul says in first Corinthians 15, that there is a spiritual body that we will receive at the resurrection, and it's been a lot of talk about what that is and what it isn't. But to say that it is spiritual again, doesn't mean that it is, you know, a wispy, ghostlike thing. It means that it comes from heaven. It's what it means to say that it is spiritual, that it is heavenly. But even more to the point, the Bible says that every person has a spirit. That you were born with a spirit your spirit is God-given and I believe it is my opinion that that is what we're being told about in Genesis chapter one when we're told that Adam was made in the likeness and in the image of God. I believe that it is our spirit that makes us in the image of God. Because as you recall, Jesus said God is Spirit and God put into us something that is in His image. I believe that is the spirit, the spirit that is within us. This is why we are able to have a relationship with God. In the biblical way of thinking, like goes with like, things that have something in common, can have a relationship with each other. But things that do not have something in common cannot be related. You remember the biblical saying, what fellowship does light have with darkness Paul says in Second Corinthians, they don't have anything in common. But we can have fellowship with God because we have something that is like God and that is a spirit, a spiritual part of us. Paul says in first Corinthians chapter two and 11, "who knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of a man, which is in him." And so, one of the keys to understanding what we're going to be talking about for the rest of our time this weekend is to understand that you have a spirit in you, you have one in you, right now, you were born with it, and you will have it until you know, forever.

In Zechariah, chapter 12 And verse one "thus declares the Lord who stretches out the heavens, lays the foundation of the earth and forms the spirit of man within him". And Isaiah 42 talks about God who gives Spirit to those who walk on the earth. So, the biblical writers took this word that meant energy, force, power. And they said, yes, that is what is going on. from God's perspective. That God has given us this spirit. And it is because you have a spirit that you are alive. Spirit makes you alive. But it's not just that it makes your physical body animated. It's not just that it keeps your heart pumping and those kinds of things. It's more than that. The spirit that is in you is the power or the energy behind what you do. And so, your spirit, according to the Bible, includes your intellect. Or we might say your mind, or we might say your heart. And this is something that might take a little getting

used to. You know, in our scientific oriented culture we want to make a distinction between all those things. Mind, heart, will, feelings. We tend to differentiate those things. The biblical writers, we're not that precise. And we have to get used to that. We can't impose our precision on them. We'll run into trouble I think if we do. Sometimes in the Bible a Bible author will talk about mind and spirit as if they are two different things. But very often in the Bible, they talk about them as if they are the same thing. And that's not a contradiction, because again, that would be to impose our ideas of precision upon them. No, it's just that their vocabulary was a little more fluid than ours, that there's a lot of overlapping in their way of thinking between these terms. But the important point I want you to see is that your spirit includes your mind, it includes what you think, it includes what goes on and what we would call your heart. The reactions that you have to things, the way you consider things, the plans that you make, the decisions that you make. Your spirit includes your will, when you decide I'm going to do this, or I want to do that. And it also includes your emotions, when I like this, or I don't like this or that struck me as strange or that made me cry. In the biblical way of thinking that your spirit. Or perhaps an even better way to say it is that to use the modern term, your spirit is your character. Your spirit includes your morals, it includes the things that you value, the things that you think are not valuable. Your priorities, your decisions, your desires, all the things that go up to make you personally you that's what the Bible would call your spirit. And maybe we should just pause here. There is a difference between your character and your personality. I think I could make that case. According to my personality, I like vanilla ice cream. That's just me. There's some people who don't like it. That's not my character though. My character is about what I hold to be right and wrong and the values and the things that are important and the decisions I make. And your personality is really not a part of this, I don't think so much, but your character is. And so, the Bible speaks this way about us that every person has a spirit within them.

Now remember, the basic idea here is power, energy or force. So, if we were to just kind of turn that around and ask the question, what makes you talk the way that you do? What makes you behave the way that you do? When somebody out here does something why did they do that? Or if somebody is acting badly, why do they act badly? Well, the biblical answer is because that is the spirit that is within them. That that is their character. They act according to their character; they act according to what is in them. And so, this spirit, this power within you is what determines and produces what you think and say and do. Now, here's the real question. The question is not, "Do I have a spirit in me? The answer is yes to that. The real question is, what kind of spirit is in you? What kind of spirit? Because you see, we were made in the image of God and our hearts in our minds when we were born were pure. They were not corrupted. They were not filled with sin. We were made pure. But the

problem is, friends and brethren, is that we have filled up our minds and our hearts and our thoughts and our decisions and our values with all kinds of garbage that we have picked up from the world. That we have corrupted our spirits by taking in the things of the world. And all of us have that problem. All of us have a spirit and all of us have a spirit that has been tainted and corrupted by the evil that is around us. So, the question then becomes what can be done to fix it? Can you cleanse your spirit? Can your spirit be made whole again, and clean again and pure again? That's what the Bible is interested in. And we're going to talk about that Lord. Willing tomorrow during our sessions then.

But for now, the point is that you have a spirit in you that is all of these things. So, for example, in Exodus 35 And verse 21, the text speaks of "everyone whose heart stirred him. And everyone who's seen spirit moved him". In the typical Old Testament way of talking, those two expressions are the same thing. You can say that somebody's heart stirred them, or you can say that their spirit moved them, but it's the same thing. And what does it say there? "Everyone whose heart stirred him and everyone whose spirit moved him came and brought the Lord's contribution for the work of the Tent of Meeting." Why did these people contribute to the building of the tabernacle? Because that is what was inside of them. In Lamentations one in verse 20, Jeremiah says, "See, O Lord, for I am in distress. My spirit is greatly troubled, my heart is overturned within me." And we all realize that Jeremiah is not talking about two different things there. His heart and His Spirit are the same thing. In Psalm 143. The psalmist says, "Therefore, my spirit is overwhelmed within me. My heart is appalled." In Isaiah chapter 26, "At night, my soul longs for you. Indeed, my spirit within me seeks you." So, there you have a biblical author using spirit with soul. And again, we like to cut those into different pieces, right? Soul, spirit, mind, body, heart, but the Bible writers No, no, no, it's all part of one picture, and they can use these terms very, very fluidly. Paul speaks in Ephesians chapter four, in verse 23, of the spirit of your mind and he doesn't mean the spirit that comes from your mind, or the spirit produced by your mind or anything you know, the word of can mean a lot of things. He means there the spirit that is your mind. And so, there's a pretty clear biblical passage there, where mind and spirit are the same thing. In Philippians chapter one and verse 27 Paul says, "conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear that you are standing firm in one spirit with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel." Now somebody might say, well, could that be the Holy Spirit? But no, I don't think so. Look at what Paul says just a couple of verses later, chapter two and verse two, "make my joy complete by being of the same mind maintaining the same love, united in spirit and intent on one purpose." Is Paul telling them to do four different things there? I don't think so. Paul is saying that your mind, your spirit, your purpose and your love, those

are four ways of saying the same thing. Paul's being emphatic there by listing it four different ways. And so, one author is described it as maybe your immaterial consciousness, you know, I'll let you decide what you think is the best way to say it in modern English. But it's vitally important that we understand that in the biblical way of thinking your spirit, the spirit that is in you, determines what you think, and what you say, and what you do.

We're going to look at Ephesians two a couple of times during our time together this weekend. But Paul says in Ephesians, two, in verse one, "that you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air", and then notice what he says, "of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience." And Paul is not saying there that every disobedient person has like a demon in them, that every disobedient person has some kind of supernatural spirit that has overtaken them. No, Paul is using the word spirit in the sense we're talking about here. their character, their mindset, the kind of people they are. Why do evil people do evil things? Because they have an evil character. Or to say that in the biblical way of thinking because they have an evil spirit, their mind is evil. And that's the way we work. That's the way all people work. We do what is within us. You remember in the Gospel of Matthew, there was this controversy. Jesus did not wash his hands before he ate and the Pharisees said, oh, Jesus, you can't do that. Right. You got to wash your hands, you'll become unclean. And Jesus said, it's not what you put into your mouth that makes you unclean. It's what's in your heart that makes you unclean. Out of the heart. Jesus said, come forth, murders, adulteries, thefts, and you know he goes on a long list there. That we act according to what's inside us. And that's the point Paul is making. They're in Ephesians Two. In Hosea chapter five and verse four, "God says a spirit of harlotry is within my people and they do not know the Lord." And Hosea was not saying that some supernatural force had overtaken them. He was saying that that's their character, that they love idolatry, that that's where their mind is and because their mind is there, they have no idea about their relationship with God.

So, once we have understood this basic idea of the spirit, now, I think that we might be able to start to think about what it means to say that God has a Spirit. The Bible says that the Spirit of God is invisible. John chapter three and verse eight. Remember that famous text with Nicodemus? Just like the wind blows and you can see its effects, but you can't see the wind itself. So is the Spirit. God says in Romans chapter one, and in verse 23, Paul says that the pagans "exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of

corruptible man and birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures." This incorruptible, immaterial, invisible God is what Paul is talking about there. And since the ancients believed that, you know, spirit can move and go from place to place the Bible talks about God sending his spirit or giving his spirit. So, for example, in Psalm 104, "you send forth your spirit, and they are created." In John 14 Jesus said, "The Helper the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things." John 15:26 "When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, He will testify about me." I hope to say a little bit more just in passing in a later lesson about John 14, 15, 16 and 17. But the point I want to gather here is that God can send his spirit. First Peter, chapter one and verse 12, talks about the prophets, in whom the Spirit was, they wanted to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating. And in Galatians, four and verse six, Paul says "God has sent forth the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, Abba, Father."

Perhaps the most difficult part of the whole biblical picture, though, is that God's Spirit is not a thing. It's not just God's power. There are some theologians who have described it that way that that the spirit is just a way of talking about God's power. But the Bible doesn't talk about it that way. It talks about the spirit being a he or a him like Jesus who can be sent and who does certain things. And so, the biblical picture is that God's Spirit is a person that it is a part or member of what we would call the Trinity. And I'll just tell you, I don't normally use that word. And I shy away from that word, because it's not a Bible word. That's it's a different kind of way of thinking. It's not the way that the biblical authors thought about it, but we're kind of stuck with that term because of our history. But the point is that it's not just a thing. It's not a power. It is a divine person. The Spirit of God gives life. The world is a place of life, because God's Spirit is present. And you see that in the very first page of the Bible, right in the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was formless and void. The Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. If you know anything about you know the biblical story and you go back and read that you say, ah, I see. The world was about to come alive because God's Spirit was there. There is no life without God's spirit life comes from God and it comes by God's Spirit. And I would ask you to make kind of a mental note about that kind of underlying that one. Because generally speaking, maybe not in every case, but generally speaking, whenever the Bible talks about life the spirit is there. And wherever the Bible talks about spirit life is there. They are two sides of the same coin. You cannot have one without the other. So, Genesis seven talks about "of all that was on the dry land and whose nostrils was the breath of the spirit of life." Notice that the breath of the Spirit of Life. Job 33 "The Spirit of God has made me the breath of the Almighty gives me life." Ezekiel 37, about what you will have more to say in our next class.

God says, "I will put my Spirit within you, and you will come to life." Spirit and life go together. But God's Spirit also imparts God's power. God is powerful God is the Creator. Only God is the Creator. And so, God's power to create is therefore understandably associated with God's Spirit. And when God needs to change something when something has been messed up, and God wants to fix it, he uses his power, or that is to say, he uses his spirit. And so, for example, in the book of Judges, "the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon" so and so. You know, Jephtha or Samsung, or so forth. Why are why are we told that why do we have to know that? Because the situation was wrong, and God wanted to fix it, and God used his power to fix it. And he gave his spirit to that judge so that that judge would have the power to do what needed to be done. In Micah three, Micah says "I am filled with power. I am filled with the Spirit of the Lord." In Luke chapter four Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit. Romans 15 "Make the God of hope, fill you with all joy and peace in believing so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." So hopefully you're starting to see a picture here. How does a Christian do what a Christian does? By the power that God gives us. By the Spirit that God gives us, in other words, because that's what spirit is. It is that which gives power and energy and force. Ephesians 3:16 pulses, "my prayer is that he would grant you according to the rich of his riches of his glory, to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in the inner man." Spirit and power.

But God's Spirit also imparts skills. So, for example, in the book of Exodus when they were building the tabernacle, it says there, God says, "You shall speak to all the skillful persons who I have endowed with the spirit of wisdom." And we're told in Exodus 31, about Bezalel, the son of Uri, the son of Hur, and God says, "I have filled him with the Spirit of God to make artistic designs." You see in the biblical way of thinking, wisdom means skill. When you have wisdom in the biblical way of thinking, it means that you know how to do something. And so how did these people - how did they get the skill? How did they know how to make all the carvings and the embroideries for the Tabernacle? Well, God gave them his spirit. And that means then therefore, they could do it. And so, spirit makes work possible.

One way that we might think of it as this way, and I want you to just think on the ordinary level here with me as our time is getting short here, but for you to do anything there's got to be at least three pieces in a picture here. You've got to decide or want to do it. You've got to have the power to do it. And then you actually have to accomplish it. That's what it takes to do something. Well, that's the picture that we get in the Bible. That this is how God does things. That God the father decides the son accomplishes, but it is the Spirit that provides the power. And so, if we're asking the question, as we talked about at the beginning of the

lesson, why does there have to be a Holy Spirit? What is the Holy Spirit doing in the Bible? This is part of the answer. This is why the spirit is needed. And this will get a little more complicated the further we go into this study, obviously, but the Holy Spirit is also called the Spirit of God and it's called the Spirit of Christ. And that's that relationship between the three that is so mysterious, right, that we think of them as three separate beings, but they are three in one. And that's all I can say about that. If you want to ask me questions about that, Kenny, I'll just say I don't know because I don't understand how all of that works and I bet you don't either. But that's the picture that the Bible gives us.

Finally, for our class this morning, at this hour, God's Spirit produces God's voice or God's word, just like the Greeks believed that air in motion makes words possible. So, God's Spirit makes God's word. So, in Psalm 33, "by the Word of the Lord, the heavens were made. By the breath of his mouth, all the host were made." God's breath made God's Word. Jesus said most famously in John 6:63, "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life." Spirit and life go together, and spirit and word go together. And so, if somebody, like a prophet has the Spirit of God, that's why a prophet has knowledge and truth. That's why the prophets could speak the mind of God, because they had God's voice speaking through them. And so, in first John 2:27, "as for you, the anointing which you received from him abides in you, and you have no need for anyone to teach you but as his anointing teaches you about all things and is true and is not a lie. And just as it has taught you, you abide in him." We'll come back to that text later. But I think that anointing there is the spirit that John was talking about. And God's word is a powerful word. And we're going to talk more about that in our next session. And so, we're going to leave that as kind of a segue into the next class period. But I hope that this has helped to kind of introduce the topic of spirit and what it is, and maybe how we might start thinking about the Spirit of God in the Bible. Thank you so much for your kind attention this hour.