

JESUS, CONTINUED...

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DISCUSSIONS

J. D. GREEAR

DISCUSSIONS FOR CHURCH LEADERS

1. A. W. Tozer said,
“If the Holy Spirit was withdrawn from the church today, 95 percent of what we do would go on and no one would know the difference. If the Holy Spirit had been withdrawn from the New Testament church, 95 of what they did would stop, and everybody would know the difference.”
If the Holy Spirit were withdrawn from our church, how much of a difference do we think it would make? (Chapter 15, pp. 205–215)
2. Would our people really say that the Spirit inside them is better than even Jesus beside them? (Introduction, pp. 13–15)
3. What is the difference between a “good idea” and a “God idea?” What are three of our church’s clearest “God ideas”? Are there any you believe we have yet to embark upon? (Chapter 1, pp. 29–33)
4. Are our people more likely to seek the Spirit apart from the Word, or to read the Word with little awareness of the Spirit? How can we lead them to submit to both? (Chapter 2, pp. 43–44)
5. For what purposes was the Holy Spirit given? Do our people look to the power of the Spirit of God for those things, for other things, or not at all? (Chapter 3, pp. 52–55)
6. Would you characterize our people as guilt-driven or gift-driven? What is the difference? How might we change our language regarding ministry involvement and generosity to produce more grace-driven and gift-driven believers? (Chapter 5, pp. 75–86)
7. Which of the “six ways” we experience the Holy Spirit is the easiest to confuse and abuse? (Chapter 7, p. 103)
8. How does fullness of the Spirit connect to centering on the gospel? (Chapter 7, pp. 108–110)
9. Who do members of our church see as the primary conduits of the Holy Spirit—their leaders or themselves? (Chapter 9, pp. 121–129)
10. Does the idea that God ‘speaks’ to people make you nervous? Have you ever experienced his voice? (Chapter 10, pp. 145–148)
11. When our people leave a worship service, what top three phrases would they likely use to characterize their experience? Would “met with and heard from the Spirit of God” make that list? (Chapter 10, pp. 148–149)
12. How do you counsel someone who says God “feels absent”? Which characterizes your Christian experience more—sensing God’s presence, or walking by faith without feeling? (Chapter 13, pp. 189–191)
13. How central is prayer in our ministry? Can we reasonably expect the outpouring of the Spirit of God based on how much we pray? (Chapter 14, pp. 200–204)
14. What most hinders the Holy Spirit in your life? In our church? (Chapter 16, pp. 216–223)