

To the amazing people of Grenfell Apostolic Church:

Today someone came to my office with some questions about our Deeper Life weekend coming up. It made me realize that there are some things that need to be talked about as we prepare for this weekend. I would imagine that there might be others who have similar questions so it made sense to make it available to any and all. Please feel free to distribute this and share it as I think it is really important. So here we go, three questions about our Deeper Life weekend:

Question 1: *“Why would I come?”*

What has motivated me as your pastor to bring in a weekend like this is pretty simple. I see great needs around us in our community- particularly the number of people who don't know Christ. I see us as a great church doing great stuff, but I don't see us making inroads into the lives of unbelievers. I want to see us grow in this and I want to see our community and our province and our nation reached for Christ.

This is what Jesus said about the baptism of the Holy Spirit from Acts 1:8: “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

We invite you to come and to receive the baptism or at the very least learn about it and to practice being open to the Holy Spirit. Our desire is that you would have the power and anointing to bring the message of Jesus to your friends, neighbors and community. We can't do this by ourselves! In a nutshell, I want you to have all that God has for you! For some of you this may be new, for others it may be revisiting an important part of your spiritual journey.

Question 2: *“What can I expect?”*

Our first session on Saturday will have some worship like you might see on any Sunday and then some teaching on the Holy Spirit. Our second session on Saturday will have about 20 minutes of worship followed by a very short teaching time and then we will go into a time of praying and seeking the Lord together, asking God to fill us. We will have someone playing music softly in the background. If you would like to be prayed for there will be people available to pray with you. If you would like to just sit and talk to God you can do that too. We will not be expecting or pushing for anything to happen in your life, other than encouraging you to invite God's Spirit to move.

Quite often at a service like this you will experience what is depicted in Acts 2:1-12, but not necessarily. Nothing may happen... but you may come away a little more open to what God has for you because you spent some time practicing inviting him in.

On Sunday morning of that weekend, we will receive some more teaching from Doug on the Holy Spirit and then spend some time celebrating what God is doing in our midst. If someone would like more prayer we will make that available as well.

Question 3: *“What can I do to prepare?”*

Really not a whole lot other than to pray that God would stir our hearts and make us hungry and excited and that God would soften our hearts to receive from him. Because this is a newer thing for our church (or perhaps it's something that we have gotten away from over the years) I think this weekend is only going to be the beginning - dipping our toes in the water if you will.

Years ago (somewhere around the age of 32) when I received the baptism of the Holy Spirit I was lying in my bed playing my guitar and worshipping God . All of a sudden I felt God's presence in a very real way and I started to speak in tongues. It wasn't at a service or with other people around. However, I understood what was happening and I had practiced yielding to the Holy Spirit many times at many services. I guess it just took me a while to be ready.

So come, and practice yielding to the Holy Spirit.

I pray God's blessing over you and urge you to invest some time in this weekend.

Pastor Dave

DEEPER LIFE WEEKEND

YIELDING TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 30TH:

~SESSION ONE: 10:00 AM

"INTRODUCTION - WITH, IN, UPON"

~SESSION TWO: 7:00 PM

"RECEIVING - THE BAPTISM"

SUNDAY DECEMBER 1ST:

~SESSION THREE: 10:30 AM

"THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT"