



NS LIFE GROUPS

NorthStar Church

Immerse – Week 4

1 Thess 5:16-19, Eph 4:30, Acts 7:51

September 9, 2018

Main Idea: 3 primary ways that Christ followers shut down the ministry of the Holy Spirit

Icebreaker: You have heard the saying, “they really know how to push my buttons!” What is one way that a spouse, family member, or friend can “shut you down”? What makes you turn away from these people at least for a little while? (Allow group members to share their experiences.)

Study:

There are 3 things that we can do that will hinder the ministry of the Holy Spirit in and through our lives. Read the following points and passages of scripture and refer to your sermon notes to discuss within your group.

1. We can **quench** the Holy Spirit’s fire. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-19)
 - a. By complaining (v. 16)—Would you say that you are generally a complainer who sees the negative or a person who is quick to rejoice in all situations? Why or why not?
 - b. Lack of prayer (v. 17)—What has your prayer life been like recently? What plan can you put in place to make prayer more of a priority in your life this week?
 - c. Being ungrateful (v. 18)—Do you struggle to be someone who is always thankful? Is there a certain situation in your life right now in which your perspective needs to shift to being more grateful?
2. We can **grieve** the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 4:30)
 - a. Read Eph. 4:25-32 and discuss all the different ways we can grieve the Holy Spirit.
 - b. Are there any of these areas that you need God to work on in your life?
3. We can **resist** the movement of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 7:51)
 - a. Do you have any examples of a time(s) in which you’ve resisted the Holy Spirit’s work in your life?
 - b. What was the result of that, and what would have been different if you’d not resisting him?

Application:

This sermon really lends itself to a time for self-reflection and examination. (*Leaders: Read the following three questions and then give group members a few silent moments to think through how they apply to their lives. Then, ask if anyone would like to share any of their answers before you pray as a group.*)

1. What do you need to confess to God today?
2. What do you need to repent of today to allow the Holy Spirit to move again in your life?
3. What do you need to talk about with someone else to “clear the air” or maybe ask for forgiveness?

Pray:

Pray for each person in your group and their various requests. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to fill us and guide us daily and to immerse our lives with his power and presence. Pray for the areas of our lives that group members have shared about.