

# FRESH ENCOUNTER

## Inside the Huddle

June 12, 2024 | Larry Chappell

<sup>31</sup> And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. <sup>32</sup> And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of *them* that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. <sup>33</sup> And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup> Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, <sup>35</sup> And laid *them* down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need. <sup>36</sup> And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of consolation,) a Levite, *and* of the country of Cyprus, <sup>37</sup> Having land, sold *it*, and brought the money, and laid *it* at the apostles' feet. (Acts 4:31-37)

### 1. Introduction

- a. Huddle where coach gathers all team members together to instruct them on next sports play
- b. Examples in Old Testament of filled with the Spirit
  - i. Workmen filled with the Spirit of wisdom to create the Tabernacle of Meeting for Moses (Exod 23:3)
    - Bezaleel of tribe of Judah to work in metals & precious stone (Exod 2-5)
    - Aholiab of tribe of Dan to build furniture for the Tabernacle (Exoc 31:6-9)
  - ii. Specialist to help build temple in Jerusalem for Solomon
    - Hiram son of Jewish mother of tribe of Naphtali & his father man of Tyre
    - He worked in brass to make the alters & metal objects used in animal sacrifice
- c. Early days of Jewish Christianity in first chapters of Acts
- d. Preparing for the birth of the church in Acts chapter 2
  - i. John the Baptist promises the coming of the Holy Spirit (Mt 3:11, Mk 1:7-8, Lk 3:16, Jn 1:32-33)
  - ii. Jesus told his disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the promise of the Father (Acts 1:4-5)

- iii. Jesus instructed his disciples that they will receive the power of the Holy Spirit to witness of his life, death, & resurrection (Acts 1:8)

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. (Act 1:8)

- e. All Christians commanded to be filled with the Holy Spirit

<sup>18</sup> And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; <sup>19</sup> Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; <sup>20</sup> Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; (Eph 5:18-20)

## 2. Filled With the Holy Spirit

- a. Peter filled with the Spirit
  - i. Acts 2:4 Day of Pentecost when all assembled together
  - ii. Acts 4:8 Peter when addressing Jewish religious rulers
  - iii. Acts 4:31 When church prayed, they spoke the Word of God with boldness
- b. Bold in Obedience to speak the Word of God – to witness
  - i. Acts 4:13 Sanhedran saw boldness of Peter & John
    - They were unlearned & ignorant – fishermen
    - How could such men know so much Scripture?
    - But they noted that they had been with Jesus
  - ii. Acts 4:7-12 By what authority or power do you act?
    - In the name of Jesus
    - God raised up Jesus from the dead
    - No other name under heaven given among men where we can be saved
  - iii. Acts 4:29 church prayed to witness boldly
  - iv. Acts 4:31 God answered their prayer to speak boldly the Word of God
  - v. Mt 16:15-17 (& Mk 8:29) Peter's confession, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."
  - vi. Acts 19:17-18 name of the Lord Jesus was magnified
    - 1 Chron 17:24 that God's name may be magnified

vii. Paul spoke the gospel of God boldly in Philippi as pleasing God

<sup>2</sup> But even after that we had suffered before, and were shamefully entreated, as ye know, at Philippi, we were bold in our God to speak unto you the gospel of God with much contention. ... <sup>4</sup> But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts. (1Thess 2:2, 4)

viii. Boldness based on authority from God's Word

ix. Holy Spirit leads to obedience of God's commands

x. Church has humble boldness

c. United together

i. Church believed with one heart in doctrine, devotion, & purpose

<sup>3</sup> Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

<sup>4</sup> *There is* one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; <sup>5</sup> One Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> One God and Father of all, who *is* above all, and through all, and in you all. (Eph 4:3-6)

ii. Philippian church had several different church members (Acts chapter 16)

- Lydia wealthy business woman
- Slave girl fortune teller
- Philippian city jailer

### 3. Focused on Eternity

a. Witness of resurrection of Lord Jesus Christ

i. Acts 5:18-20

- Angel releases Peter & John from city jail
- Angel tells them to go & speak all the words of this life (zoe)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Greek word for life bios = physical life
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Greek word psyche = life of the soul
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Greek word zoe = eternal life of human spirit

ii. Jesus is alive!

b. Sacrificial & without selfishness

i. Church held all things in common

ii. Christian not to gather goods only for themselves

<sup>19</sup> Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: <sup>20</sup> But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

<sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. (Mat 6:19-21)

c. Authentic

i. Example of Barnabus

- His name means Son of Consolation or Comfort
- He was a Jew of the scattered Diaspora living in Gentile lands
- He was native of island of Cypress
- Island near Lebanon & Turkey

ii. Example of churches of Macedonia (2 Cor 8:1-2)

- Sent generous money offering to starving church at Jerusalem
- Macedonian churches lived in extreme poverty

iii. Example of Jesus Christ Himself (2 Cor 8:9)

- Jesus was rich in heaven
- But Jesus became poor coming to be born as a human baby
- Jesus' poverty & death was God's gift of grace to all people

iv. The pretenders (Acts 5:1-11)

- Ananias & Sapphira sold a piece of property
- They pretended & told everyone that they gave entire sale price to the church
- But actually only gave a portion of the sale price
- God judged them