

- I. Christ *baptizes* believers
 - A. Believers are *baptized* in the *Holy Spirit* Eph 5:18; Gal 5:22-23
 - B. Believers are *baptized* in *fire* Rom 8:18; Isa 48:10

- II. Another *fire* awaits *unbelievers*
 - A. This *fire* is *different* Matt 3:12; Mark 9:43
 - B. This *message* is *offensive* John 14:6; Acts 4:12

- III. These realities lead to *exhortations* and *good news*
 - A. *Exhortations* focus on the *future* Rom 12:1; Heb 11:13; John 3:30
 - B. The *good news* focuses on the *present* Mark 1:15; Rev 21:1-4

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

The following is designed to help your group enter into meaningful discussion and application as you become a more fully-devoted follower of Jesus. These questions are a guide and you may not address all of them in group. Look through them ahead of time and identify questions you would like to discuss more thoroughly together. Any questions not addressed during group may be useful for personal study. Remember, our goal is to not just listen to the Word but obey it (James 1:22).

RELATE

Who have been the "John the Baptists" in your life--people who have encouraged you, shown you the way, or pointed you to Christ? Share how God used them.

REVIEW

What are some indications that someone may be filled with the Holy Spirit?

Describe the two fires. What is the difference between them?

What is exhortation? What is the good news John the Baptist was preaching? Is that good news still valid today?

APPLICATION

Why are you in small group? What will be your contribution?

Are you in the fire right now? What fruit (see Galatians 5:22-23) could the Spirit be developing in you through this trial?

Read John 14:6 and Acts 4:12. How are these truths culturally offensive? Are they offensive to you? Explain.

What is preventing you from being continually filled with the Holy Spirit?

DIG

According to the following verses, what does the Holy Spirit do?

John 14:26 -

John 15:26 -

Romans 8:16 -

Romans 8:26-27 -

1 Corinthians 12:11 -

Challenge: Bring one more Scripture to the group that tells us something about the Holy Spirit.

Gospel in Action

The good news is that God has not left us to ourselves! He initiated His plan of redemption toward us. How can you initiate toward others in your sphere of influence this week? Consider inviting someone to Alpha.