

How To Live in the Power of the Spirit

International Bible Lesson

Luke 4:13-21

Sunday, May 11, 2014

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

“And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about” (Luke 4:14—KJV).

“Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country” (Luke 4:14—NRSV).

Jesus and the Holy Spirit worked closely together. In chapter four of his gospel, Luke wrote that Jesus was full of the Holy Spirit after He was baptized. Jesus obeyed God and followed the Holy Spirit when the Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness, where Jesus was tested by the devil. After Jesus passed every test, He was filled with the power of the Spirit and began His public ministry. Jesus honored His heavenly Father by doing everything the Father wanted Him to do and by living according to every word that proceeds from the mouth of God (Matthew 4:4). Jesus honored the Holy Spirit and declared that the Holy Spirit worked within Him when He preached from the prophet Isaiah and proclaimed, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me” (Luke 4:18). Jesus honored His Father, the Holy Spirit, and himself by keeping His focus on doing the will of God according to the Word of God in the power of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit honored Jesus by working signs, miracles, and wonders through Him. At the conclusion of His public ministry, the Father honored Jesus when He raised Him from the dead. Jesus’ disciples learned from listening to Jesus and from watching Jesus work in the power of the Holy Spirit. They learned the importance of obeying and trusting in God. They obeyed the teachings of Jesus; for Jesus told them, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments” (John 14:15). However, they could not do Jesus’ work effectively until the Holy Spirit came and filled them on the Day of Pentecost.

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Thinking Further

The *International Sunday School Lesson* for May 11, 2014 is from Isaiah 61:1-3 and Luke 4:13-21. The “Thinking Further” Questions below are from these lessons.

1. Name one way that Jesus helps the oppressed today?
2. Name one way that Jesus helps those who mourn today?
3. Give one reason why the Bible teaches that Jesus taught and did His work in the power of the Holy Spirit instead of just by himself.
4. Give one reason why Jesus and the apostles began to teach first in the synagogues instead of just beginning on street corners.
5. Why was it important for Jesus and the apostles to teach from the Hebrew Scriptures instead of disregarding the Bible and just teaching their own ideas?