

# Home Group Study Notes - 17/11/19

## Holy Spirit - blockages - controlling spirit

### Icebreaker

Who's got something that's really excited them that has happened recently?  
Who's been really excited by something they've read in the bible recently? Who hasn't? Talk about why that might be.

### Discovery

Get someone to read Genesis 1:26-28.

Then read the following out - it's from chapter 3 of 'Scattered Servants' by Alan Scott (unleashing the church to bring Life to the city) (PS - it's a recent book and brilliant!).

'The dream of God over your life is not that you become a believer and help out the local church. The dream of God over your life is that you come alive in his presence and bring life to every environment, spilling contagious hope into hurting humanity. God has entrusted believers with an assignment to lead the Earth into life.

When God created humanity, he called it to shape the world.

Human beings were trusted to rule and bring design. They were trusted to speak words and live lives that shape culture.

You are carrying Kingdom authority, and whenever you awaken to that authority, it changes you and everyone around you. You can never enter an environment you don't have authority in. So you never have to fight for authority. There is never a room you're in that you don't have authority in, except when you surrender your authority at the door. Every time you surrender your authority, you lose some of your identity.' Discuss.

As well as God's authority, we've been given the Holy Spirit, and like Jesus did when the woman with the issue of blood was healed without him even noticing her in Luke 8, we've the potential to flow and crackle with the power of the Spirit.

What it would be like to flow like that? How would life be different?

In Sunday's talk it was suggested there are a whole lot of rocks that can block the flow of the Spirit. They prevent us making the impact on humanity and creation that God designed us for - leaving us like timid, feeble little mice (sorry to anyone who likes mice! There're actually pretty amazing animals!).

Mike listed some of the biggies on Sunday: legalism / controlling spirit / unforgiveness / fear / unbelief / pride / self-sufficiency / a judging heart. And they're not the only ones.

We looked at the first 3 on Sunday, and Mike suggested they could be linked to 3 hindrances to the Spirit found in the New Testament, as follows: 'resisting the Spirit' - Acts 6:8-11 & 7:51-53; 'quenching' - 1 Thessalonians 5:12-19; 'grieving' - Ephesians 4:25-32. Ask people to read out each of these.

### Discussion

See if people can make the link between the 3 'rocks' above and these hindrances, and see how much you agree with the idea (it's OK to disagree). (The links suggested are: 'resisting' linked to legalism; 'quenching' to controlling spirit; 'grieving' - unforgiveness.)

NB - the other rocks mentioned on Sunday are going to be dealt with by Carnie (fear and unbelief) and Matt (pride, self-sufficiency and judging heart) on the next 2 Sundays. So try not to be drawn into discussing them now.

## **Response**

Finally it was suggested on Sunday there is a way to deal with blockages we think we might have - a 5 stage process. Work through it and suggest people try it in the coming weeks. The steps are progressive. They are:

1. Recognise areas we struggle in.
2. Be aware 'after the moment' (ie later) and repent.
3. Be aware 'in the moment' - even if you don't manage to stop and deal with it there and then - and repent later.
4. Overcome 'in the moment'. Hurray!
5. Help others, having overcome...

If you have time, discuss all this and resolve together to try it out in the coming week.

Finally, pray for each other for breakthroughs and freedom to flow in the Spirit and to rise up into our God given authority. This is so important. If we don't deal with these things, we allow the enemy of our souls a foothold, and he will do his utmost to spoil what God is wanting for us and for the world.

God bless you as you spend time together.

Mike