Life Group Study

“The Ministry of the Holy Spirit”
SERIES: “Stretch Your Nets” – Acts (#10)
Sermon: Dr. Arnold Mol
Group Study: Rev. Paul Witter

 **Prepare**

View the sermon and **review the sermon notes.**

*NOTE FOR THE GROUP LEADER:
Choose those questions that are pertinent to the group member’s needs and experiences.*

**Open**

1. Pray for the Holy Spirit to give you understanding and to reveal truth and wisdom to you.
2. What changes have you seen in your life between the “old” and “new” when becoming a Christian?
3. What piece of “old-life” clothing seems to be skin-tight and hard to remove?
4. What prompts you to live the Christian life? Where do you feel you are making progress in your Christian life at the moment?

**Digging Deeper:**

1. Review in your own words the difference between the “baptism of the Holy Spirit”, the “filling of the Holy Spirit”, and the “fullness of the Holy Spirit”. What stood out for you in this sermon?
2. What evidence is there of the baptism of the Holy Spirit in your life:

\* Assurance of salvation – Romans 8:16

\* A desire to live a godly life – Romans 8:5
3. Have you, and do you, experience the filling of the Holy Spirit in your life to be effective in serving the Lord when using your spiritual gifts?
Since this is not a ‘feeling’, what is the evidence of the filling of the Spirit?

Do you know your Spiritual gifts? If not, join the next gifts workshop.
4. What keeps YOU from being filled by the Holy Spirit?
See: 2 Timothy 2:21; 1 Corinthians 2:4; John 16:14; John 7:38-39.
5. Read Ephesians 5:15-18. What are the implications of the context of verse 18 – see verses 15-17.

What are the implications of the form of the words “ be filled” in
verse 18:

\* Personal implication (“YOU be filled”):

\* present- continuous tense (“keep on being filled”)

\* passive mood (God fills you)

\* imperative / command voice (“be filled!!”)

\* The implications
6. Why are Christians in our context nervous to indicate they are “Spirit filled” but happier to say they are “living according to the Scriptures”? (see parallel passages Eph. 5:18-6:7 and Col. 3:16-24 as explained in the sermon)
7. The fullness of the Spirit relates to a godly lifestyle – walking in the Spirit (Galatians 5:16, 23-25) and the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22).
In what areas do you need to grow and work toward not quenching the Spirit?

**Going forward: (discuss with your life group prayer partner)**

1. What has struck you the most from this lesson? How would the Lord want you to respond? Share with your prayer partner.
2. Share and pray with your partner about **one** “take home” action point that you would like to implement.

**Close**

1. Pray through Ephesians 5:18, taking into consideration all the nuances of the words, “be filled with the Spirit”.
2. Continue working on your personal testimony and advise Pastor Paul if you would like to share it at a service.