



**Transitioning from Membership to Discipleship:
The Indispensable Shift in Youth Ministry**

PULSE meet

◆ Gilbert Cangy - GC Youth Director, DMin.



The SDA Church - A Prophetic Movement

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- Emerged from the ashes of the 1844 Disappointment as a fulfillment of prophecy.
- Identified the unique messages of the three angels of Revelation 14: 6-12 as God's last message to the world.
- Developed a set of distinctive Biblical teachings known as pillar doctrines or Landmarks.
- Primary Mission: Converting other Christians to its special message for the end time.



UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

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A Neglect of Basic Christian Teachings

Ellen White commented at the Minneapolis Conference of 1888.

While members and leaders had thoroughly imbibed the distinctive Adventist doctrines, they did not know what it meant to be saved by the righteousness of Christ and sanctified by his softening love. She told the leaders at the conference,

“We want the truth as it is in Jesus. I have seen that precious souls who would have embraced the truth have been turned away from it because of the manner in which the truth has been handled, because Jesus was not in it. And this is what I have been pleading with you all the time – we want Jesus.”



DEFINITIONS

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- **CHURH MEMBER:** A *church member* in good and regular standing is defined as one who has been instructed in and has accepted the fundamental doctrines of the Church, is baptized by immersion, attends church fairly regularly, and is faithful in returning the tithe. There might be other expectations, but they are not mandatory.
- **AUTHENTIC DISCIPL**E: An *authentic disciple* is one who enrolls to be an apprentice of Jesus Christ, steadily learning from him how to live the life of the Kingdom of Heaven into every corner of human existence. It is one who desires above all else to be like him and to do what he did.



ENRICHING OUR HERITAGE - A Call to Discipleship

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- **Enriching our Informational Approach of the Scriptures by the Formational Approach.**
- **Enriching our End-time view of the Kingdom of God with its implication for the here and now.**
- **Enriching our understand of the Holy Spirit as a Present Reality.**

THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Misunderstood Person



THE POWER OF ONE

LUKE 11: 11-13

- 11 "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? 12 Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? 13 If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, *how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!*"



THE EPHESIAN EXPERIENCE

- Acts 19:1-2 & 3.
- *A Heart Searching Question*
- *“Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”*
- *“We have never heard that there is a Holy Spirit”*



THE EPHESIAN EXPERIENCE

- Acts 19:1-2 & 3.
- *There are to-day many as ignorant as of the Holy Spirit's work upon the heart as were those believers in Ephesus; yet no truth is more clearly taught in the word of God. Prophets and apostles have dwelt upon this theme. Christ Himself calls our attention to the growth of the of the vegetable world as an illustration of the agency of the Holy Spirit in sustaining life.*



MESSAGES FROM THE PROPHET

- *“Alas many to-day have as far as the baptism of repentance, but no farther. They are honest, sincere and obedient to the extent of their knowledge. But they are ignorant of the fuller, brighter and larger life. Whatever knowledge they have of the Holy Spirit is vague, indefinite, inadequate. His personality, power and presence are not understood. They are largely ignorant of his program and provisions, and are sadly barren of his fruits” (The Coming of the Comforter p. 143).*



- TOWARDS A BIBLICAL UNDERSTANDING OF THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



WHAT IS THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT?

- 1 Samuel 10:5-7
- Spirit of the Lord will come upon you.
 - IN POWER
 - YOU WILL PROPHECY
 - YOU WILL BE CHANGED INTO A DIFFERENT PERSON
 - GOD IS WITH YOU



OLD TESTAMENT EXAMPLES

- Bezalel: Exodus 31:1-3

1 Then the Lord said to Moses, 2 "See, I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, 3 and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills

- Othniel: Judges 3:10

The Spirit of the Lord came on him, so that he became Israel's judge and went to war. The Lord gave Cushan-Rishathaim king of Aram into the hands of Othniel, who overpowered him.



OLD TESTAMENT EXAMPLES

- Samson: Judges 14:6

6 The *Spirit of the Lord came powerfully* upon him so that he tore the lion apart with his bare hands as he might have torn a young goat. But he told neither his father nor his mother what he had done.

- David: 1 Sam. 16:13, 18:4

13 So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day *on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully* upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah.



GOD'S PURPOSE IN GIVING THE HOLY SPIRIT

- 2 Sam. 23:2 – Communication

2 "The Spirit of the Lord spoke through me; his word was on my tongue.

- Micah 3:8 – Revelation

8 But as for me, I am filled with power, with the Spirit of the Lord, and with justice and might, to declare to Jacob his transgression, to Israel his sin.



GOD'S PURPOSE IN GIVING THE HOLY SPIRIT

- Isaiah 42:1 – Servanthood

1 "Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations.

- Acts 1:7 & 8 – Witness

7 He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."



OLD TESTAMENT OBSERVATIONS

- Limitation 1
 - Temporary Experience



THE POWER OF ONE

MESSAGES FROM THE PROPHET

- *“Consider the twofold work of the Holy Spirit. In the Old Testament, He worked upon more from without inward, but did not dwell or abide in them permanently. He appeared to them and empowered them, but did not often take abode in them. But from Pentecost onward, there has been a great change. His is now a special work, differing from that of preceeding ages. Provision is made for Him to enter and live in all Christian believers, and work from within outward, filling and abiding” (The Coming of the Conforter p 30).*



OLD TESTAMENT OBSERVATIONS

- LIMITATIONS 2 – ONLY THE FEW
- Numbers 11:16 & 17 - Shared leadership
- *Individuals known to be leaders in public life need the Spirit for Kingdom leadership.*
- Numbers 11:24-30

Moses' wish – Discuss.



THE PROMISE CONTAINED IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

- Joel 2:28-30

Discuss the significance of the promise

- Future v/s Present
- Indiscriminate pouring out

Young & Old, Men & Women = All Servants

S O W H E N ?



POSSIBLE CONNECTION WITH NEW COVENANT

- Jeremiah 31:33 & 34 – New covenant

31 *"The days are coming," declares the Lord, "when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah.*

33 *"This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares the Lord. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.*

34 *No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, 'Know the Lord,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the Lord."*



POSSIBLE CONNECTION WITH NEW COVENANT

- Ezekiel 36:26 & 27

26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

- A new heart, a new mind
- Spirit in you
- Highly personal presence & guidance



THE COMING OF JESUS – THE TURNING POINT

- A. *The Message of John the Baptist - Mark 1:7, 8*
- *5 The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. 6 John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 7 And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. 8 I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."*



THE COMING OF JESUS – THE TURNING POINT

A. THE MESSAGE OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

- Matt 3:11

11 "I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. *He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.*

- Luke 3:15,16

15 The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. 16 John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. *He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.*

John 1:32-34

32 Then John gave this testimony: "I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. 33 And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain *is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.*'



THE COMING OF JESUS – THE TURNING POINT

B. JESUS, THE EXAMPLE OF THE MAN OF THE SPIRIT GROUP EXERCISE

1. Matt. 1:18-20: *Conception: Of the Holy Spirit*
2. Matt. 3: 16-17: *Baptism: Holy Spirit descends (Example)*
3. Luke 4:1,2: *Preparation for Ministry: Led by Spirit to desert*
4. Luke 4: 14-19: *Ministry: In the power of the Spirit*
5. Luke 5:17: *Miraculous healing: In the Power of the Spirit*
6. Luke 10:21: *Personal disposition: Joy in the Spirit (fruits)*
7. Acts 1: 7-8: *Passes the legacy: Promises Holy Spirit*
8. Acts 2:33: *Provider: Dispenses the Holy Spirit*



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THE COMING OF JESUS – THE TURNING POINT

C. JESUS AND THE NEW COVENANT

LUKE 22:19,20

19 *And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."*

20 *In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is **the new covenant in my blood**, which is poured out for you."*



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THE OUTPOURING OF THE SPIRIT – A HISTORICAL MOMENT IN GOD’S PLAN TO SAVE THE WORLD

- THE TIMING - John 7:37 – 39

37 On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them." 39 By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.



THE OUTPOURING OF THE SPIRIT – A HISTORICAL MOMENT IN GOD’S PLAN TO SAVE THE WORLD

- THE TIMING – John 17: 1,4-5; Acts: 2:33

1 After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: "*Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you.*"

4 I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do.

5 And now, Father, *glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.*

Acts 2: 33: 32 God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. 33 *Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.*



MESSAGES FROM THE PROPHET

- *“When Christ passed within the heavenly gates, He was enthroned amidst the adoration of angels. As soon as this ceremony was completed, the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples in rich currents, and Christ was indeed glorified, even with the glory which He had with the Father from all eternity” (Acts of the Apostles pp 38,39).*



THE OUTPOURING OF THE SPIRIT – A HISTORICAL MOMENT IN GOD’S PLAN TO SAVE THE WORLD

- THE FULFILLMENT AFTER THE ASCENSION
 1. ACTS 1:4,5 – THE COMMAND TO WAIT
 2. ACTS 1:7,8 - JESUS DEFINES ROLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
 3. ACTS 1:14 – UNITED & PRAYERFUL IN WAITING
 4. ACTS 2: 1-14 – THE FULFILLMENT



PETER'S INTERPRETATION OF THE DAY OF PENTECOST

- Acts 2:14-21
 - Fulfillment of Joel's prophecy & Beginning of the Last Days
- 14 Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. 15 These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! 16 No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:*



PETER'S INTERPRETATION OF THE DAY OF PENTECOST

- Acts 2:14-21
 - Fulfillment of Joel's prophecy & Beginning of the Last Days
- 17 " *In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams.*
- 18 *Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.*



THE SPIRIT GIVES BIRTH TO THE CHURCH

- Acts 2:37-39

37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "**Brothers, what shall we do?**"

38 Peter replied, "**Repent and be baptized**, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And **you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit**. 39 The promise is **for you and your children and for all who are far off**—for all whom the Lord our God will call."



THE SPIRIT GIVES BIRTH TO THE CHURCH

- Acts 2:41-47

41 Those who *accepted his message were baptized*, and about *three thousand were added to their number that day*.

The Fellowship of the Believers

42 *They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.* 43 *Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.* 44 *All the believers were together and had everything in common.* 45 *They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.* 46 *Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts,* 47 *praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.*



THE SPIRIT GIVES BIRTH TO THE CHURCH

- *THE EPHESIAN QUESTION*
- *WHAT IS THE IMPLICATION FOR US TO-DAY?*
- *REVIVAL & REFORMATION IS GOD'S WILL FOR HIS PEOPLE*



MESSAGES FROM THE PROPHET

- *“Why do we not hunger and thirst for the gift of the Holy Spirit, since this is the means by which we are to receive power? Why do we not talk of it, pray for it, preach concerning it? The Lord is more wiling to give the Holy Spirit to us than parents are to give good gifts to their children. For the baptism of the Holy Spirit, every worker should be pleading with God”*. Testimonies vol. 8 p.22.



MESSAGES FROM THE PROPHET

- *“Just prior to his leaving his disciples for the heavenly courts, Jesus encouraged them with the promise of the Holy Spirit. The promise belongs as much to us as it did to them, and yet how rarely it is presented to the people, and its reception spoken of in the church” (Testimonies Vol 8 p.21).*





ENRICHING OUR HERITAGE - A Call to Discipleship

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- Enriching our Informational Approach of the Scriptures by the Formational Approach.
- Enriching our End-time view of the Kingdom of God with its implication for the here and now.
- Enriching our understand of the Holy Spirit as a Present Reality.



**Transitioning from Membership to Discipleship:
The Indispensable Shift in Youth Ministry**

PULSE meet

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THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Misunderstood Agent of Revival and Reformation



THE POWER OF ONE

MESSAGES FROM THE PROPHET

- *“The promise of the Holy Spirit is casually brought into our discourse, is incidentally touched upon, and that is all. Prophecies have been dwelt upon, doctrines have been expounded; but that which is essential to the church in order that they may grow in spiritual strength and efficiency, in order that preaching may carry conviction with it, and souls be converted to has largely been left out of ministerial effort. ..the impression concerning the Holy Spirit has been that this is not for the church now, but at some time in the future, it would be necessary for the church to receive it” (The Coming of the Comforter p 14).*



MESSAGES FROM THE PROPHET

- *“Transformation of character is the testimony to the world of an indwelling Christ. The Spirit of God produces new life in the soul, bring the thoughts and desires into obedience to the will of Christ; and the inward man is renewed to the image of God” (Prophets and Kings p 233).*



THE CONTEXT

THE MESSAGE OF JESUS

- MARK 1:14,15.

14 After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 15 "The time has come," he said, "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

- Luke 4:43

43 But he said, "I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent."

Luke 9: 1,2.

"When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick"



THE CONTEXT

THE MESSAGE OF JESUS

- Matthew 24:14.

“And **this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world** as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.” (Matthew 24:14).

- Acts 1:3

“After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and **spoke about the kingdom of God**”.

Acts 8:12

“But when they believed Philip as **he proclaimed the good news of the kingdom of God** and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women” (Acts 8:12).



THE CONTEXT

THE MESSAGE OF JESUS

- Acts 28:30,31.

“ For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him. **He proclaimed the kingdom of God** and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ—with all boldness and without hindrance!”

- Revelation 14:6.

““Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had **the eternal gospel** to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people” (Revelation 14:6).



DEFINITION OF TERMS

- Acts 5:1-10 – Ananias & Sapphira
- 3: *Lied to the Holy Spirit*
- 4: *Lied to God*
- 9: *Test the Spirit of the Lord*
- Acts 16:6-8 – Paul's Vision
- *The Holy Spirit & The Spirit of Jesus*



WHAT IS THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT?

New Testament Expression

- Spirit of the Lord will come upon you.
 - IN POWER: Acts 1:8
 - YOU WILL PROPHECY - Romans 12:6-8; 1 Cor. 12; Eph. 4.
 - YOU WILL BE CHANGED INTO A DIFFERENT PERSON – 2 Cor. 5:17
 - GOD IS WITH YOU – John 14: 16-26

