

# University City Church of Christ

## The Holy Spirit in Action

A Bible Study

Session 6, September 12, 2021

Today we are examining references to the Holy Spirit in the book of Matthew.

### **Matt 1:18-20**

<sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ESV

### **Matt 3:11-4:1**

<sup>11</sup> "I [John] baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>12</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

<sup>13</sup> Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" <sup>15</sup> But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. <sup>16</sup> And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; <sup>17</sup> and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

<sup>4:1</sup> Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ESV

### **Matt 10:16-20**

<sup>16</sup> "Behold, I am sending you [the twelve] out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. <sup>17</sup> Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, <sup>18</sup> and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles. <sup>19</sup> When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. <sup>20</sup> For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. ESV

### **Matt 12:17-18**

<sup>17</sup> This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah: <sup>18</sup> *"Behold, my servant whom I have chosen, my beloved with whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles.* ESV (see Isaiah 42:1)

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### **Matt 12:28-32**

<sup>28</sup> But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. <sup>29</sup> Or how can someone enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? Then indeed he may plunder his house. <sup>30</sup> <sup>h</sup> Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. <sup>31</sup> <sup>i</sup> Therefore I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven people, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. <sup>32</sup> And whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come. ESV

### **Matt 22:41-45**

<sup>41</sup> Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, <sup>42</sup> saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." <sup>43</sup> He said to them, "How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying, <sup>44</sup> "The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet? <sup>45</sup> If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?" ESV

### **Matt 28:18-20**

<sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> <sup>j</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." ESV

Some questions for discussion:

- 1 – How did the granting of the Holy Spirit change the trajectory of the recipients' lives?
- 2 – Think about Bible characters that [apparently] did not receive the Holy Spirit. What is implied?
- 3 – Did the presence of the Holy Spirit in a person ensure their holiness?
- 4 – Was the presence of the Spirit permanent?
- 5 – Is there a difference in the meaning of the Holy Spirit being "on," "upon," "in the midst of," "into," "in" or "within" that person?
- 6 – Matthew does not record Jesus' promise of the "coming" of the Holy Spirit (see John 16), though He anticipates it (Matthew 10:20). Even so, the Spirit's current presence is acknowledged. How is this phenomenon to be understood?

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