

BIG GIFT CHRISTMAS

December 10, 2017

Pastor Steve Luxa

The Gift of the Spirit

Introduction

“⁴ But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.” (Galatians 4:4-7, ESV)

1. The Gift of the Spirit

“[The Spirit] is *active*, powerfully enlightening, animating, and transforming me along with others as he stirs our sluggishness, sharpens our insight, soothes our guilty consciences, sweetens our tempers, supports us under pressure, and strengthens us for righteousness.” (J.I. Packer (emphasis his) in *Keep in Step with the Spirit*, 55.)

2. Noticing the Spirit

“¹⁴ He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.” (John 16:14, ESV)

3. Walking by the Spirit

“¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.” (Galatians 5:16, ESV)

“²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.” (Galatians 5:25, ESV)

Confession

Contemplation

Digging Deeper into the Big Gifts of Christmas

This week's passages:

Monday – Galatians 4:4-7

Tuesday – John 14

Wednesday – John 16

Thursday – Romans 8

Friday – Galatians 5:16-26

Weekend – Review the most meaningful passages of the week.

Each day this week you are invited to read the day's passage and then respond to the following questions. Take special note of what God's word says about the Spirit, obedience, and life in Jesus. You might find it beneficial to use a journal or notebook to record insights.

1. Read the passage prayerfully, listening for the voice of God and asking him to speak to you.
2. Record or write down the word, phrase, or verse that God impresses upon you.
3. Reflect and write down what it is about this word, phrase or verse that is meaningful to you.
4. Respond by writing a prayer or recording what it is that you think the Lord wants you to do in response to his word (“*Be doers of the word and not hearers only*” James 1:22).