

The Spirit of Truth - July 6, 2026

Speaker 1 And wow, that was that was really good.

Pastor Kevin Very good. Y'all make some some noise for the worship team, everyone. Good man. You know, they work really, really hard and and, and and they do it with the right heart. Um, I know the heart of each and every person up there on that stage and, and I say stage platform, whatever you want to call it. I know it's not a place of performance only for the King of kings. Um, and it's a sacrifice, but they do it with joy in their hearts. So I'm grateful for the worship team. I'm grateful for all of you. I'm grateful for everybody that fought the rain. I was looking pretty ugly there for a moment, but the Lord let it rain down in here. Yes. I better get my glasses because I won't be able to read. I will get better at remembering my glasses. This is a new thing, everybody. So life has been bringing some adjustments to me, and I'm noticing that I'm waking up different in the flesh. The spirit is ready, but the flesh has got some creaks and creaks and needs a little oil. But I still fancy myself a D1 athlete, right? That's probably a stretch. As I was working this week on The message, the Lord returned me back to the book of acts, which we will get into, but he returned me to the purpose of. The power and presence and returning to what the church looked like. And it wasn't till about Monday or Tuesday I got some direction from the Lord, and I didn't. I didn't just get direction for tonight. He gave me what he really hasn't done since I've been here. He's he's given me the next couple of weeks. But what he told me is I want you to talk about the things that many churches avoid. I want you to talk about the things that people need answers to. I want you to talk about the things that people need to learn about, need to understand, need to operate in. So the Lord put baptism of the Holy Spirit on my heart. He put the laying on of hands on my heart. He put how to worship on my heart. And the next few weeks, we're going to go through these things that I believe the church with a capital C is made a mess of. But we don't need to sit in a mess because that word says everything. And by the power of the Holy Spirit and through his grace and mercy, the next couple of weeks, this is what we're going to be talking about. But tonight, if you turn to the book of John, chapter sixteen, verses five through fifteen, John chapter sixteen, verses five through fifteen, I'll be reading from the New Living Translation. But now I am going away to the one who sent me. And not one of you are asking where I'm going. Instead, you grieve because of what I've told you. But in fact, it is best for you that I go away. Because if I don't, the advocate won't come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you. And when he comes he will convict the world of its sin and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment. The world's sin is that it refuses to believe in me. Righteousness is available because I go to the father and you will see me no more. Judgment will come because the ruler of this world has already been judged. There is so much more I want to tell you. But you can't bear it now. When the spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own, but he will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future. He will bring me glory by telling you whatever he receives from me. All that belongs to the father is mine. This is why I said, the spirit will tell you whatever he receives from me. The title of my message tonight is The Spirit of Truth. Bow your heads. Lord God, I thank you for this word. I thank you, Lord God, that it's timely, Lord. And I thank you, Lord God, that this word will usher in a new movement for Mark two twenty two. Lord God, I thank you, Lord God, that we press forward, Lord, press forward

down the path and in the direction you have for us. We love you, Lord God, and we thank you that you care for us, that you nurture us, and that you lead us looking to Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. And it's in Jesus mighty name we pray. And everyone said, Amen. I don't normally read an opening statement, but I'm going to read this to you. Hopefully it makes sense to some of you. These past few weeks, I, along with many others, have, since the intensity of the spiritual warfare taking place in the heavenly realm, as the spirit of the Lord rises within his church, bringing conviction, transformation, and renewal, we also encounter a fierce resistance. It is a resistance that comes with great force, bringing confusion to many believers, causing some to question their faith, others to doubt their discernment, and still others to become stagnant in their walk with Christ. As Christians, we know our battles are not carnal in nature. We do not war against flesh and blood where offense, bitterness, and division seek to take root. Wow. Rather, we wrestle against principalities and powers that oppose the kingdom of God and seek to hinder his work in the lives of his people. What makes this warfare so dangerous is that it's rarely presents itself as obvious darkness. The enemy does not typically appear with a pitchfork or a tail. Instead, he disguises himself as something that appears to be good, reasonable, and even biblical, often supported by subtle distortions of misapplications of Of Scripture. His greatest weapon has always been deception. When warfare comes with such intensity and deception, how does a genuine follower of Christ navigate these difficult waters? How do we discern truth from error? How do we remain steadfast when everything around us seems designed to produce uncertainty and compromise? Tonight, my hope is to guide you down a path that leads not merely to more knowledge, but to a truth that can be trusted, a truth that produces fruit for God's kingdom. We will discover that the enemy's schemes are not new, that his tactics have remained, and this from the same from the beginning, and that he possesses no authority over the true sons and daughters of God who are led by the Holy Spirit. Tonight we continue our journey into understanding the Holy Spirit of truth and the baptism of fire. When I wrote this, I felt the pressure. Earlier this week, the pressure that the church with the capital C was under. I felt the pressure of people that I love and I pray with, and I felt the pressure that don't even attend our church. Everywhere I look, there's pressure. It's a breaking point. Get ready to happen. And I can't be the only one that feels it. You can turn on a podcast, you could turn on a pastor, and you could sense the pressure. Like something's getting ready to break. But what I'm here to tell you. Sons and daughters of the living God, what's about to break is good, and it's his. And what he is saying is to keep going. Follow him. Press forward, move forward. Move forward. When Carl and I started Mark two twenty two, we were standing here. We met with Pastor Burris, and we were sitting at a table right here. And Pastor Burris had prayed a couple of days, and he came back and he met with us, and he said, I consulted the spirit. And the spirit said that you two were good. Praise God. It was amazing the way he said it, though with certainty. He said, your past will try to get you, but leave it, take it, and then leave it at the table. And he said, and move forward. And now I realize that message is not only for me. There's pressure all over the church with a capital C, and the Lord is saying, move forward, move forward, son, move forward, daughter, step in the path that I have designed for you and laid out. As I was reading, I began to realize that the tactics of the enemy are not new. He's been doing the same tricks since the beginning. He has been deceiving ever since he deceived Adam and Eve. Turn, if you would to. First Corinthians chapter one, verses ten

through thirteen. Once again. The New Living Translation, first Corinthians chapter one, verses ten through thirteen. This isn't. Hear me. This isn't a new battle. Everyone say this isn't a new battle. Starting in verse ten, I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, to live in harmony with each other. Let there be no divisions in the church. Rather be of one mind, united in thought and purpose. For some members of Chloe's household has told me about your quarrels. My dear brothers and sisters, some of you are saying, I follow. I am a follower of Paul. Others are saying, I'm a follower of Apollos, I follow Peter, I follow only Christ. Has Christ been divided into factions. Was I Paul crucified for you? Were any of you baptized in the name of Paul? He went on to say, of course not. I thank God for Paul. Paul was such a humble leader. Paul is writing to the Corinthians, and the first thing you need to know is when he's writing to the Corinthians, he's not writing to a church like this. Churches didn't look like this. He was writing to a region. And in that region there were small, what we call pop up churches, household churches, and there were churches all over the Corinthian region. But he wrote one letter, and he understood that they would share that letter, and they would meet together and they would talk. But there was quarrels going on. There was arguments. There was division taking place because people were following different factions. They were separating God. Some said they followed Paul, some said they followed Apollos. Others said they followed Peter. And then there were some that said they followed Christ, but they were separating things. And as they began to separate what they followed and what they chose to believe and what they wanted to leave behind, factions began to develop. And Paul, with his humble nature, even though he knew some of them, wanted to follow him, he said, what are you doing? Was it I, Paul, that was crucified? Is it Christ that should be separated? Does this seem new? What if. Covington, Louisiana. Mandeville. Louisiana. West. Saint Tammany Parish got a letter from Paul. I follow this The nomination? No, I follow this nomination. No, I follow this pastor. I watch this podcast. Are we not guilty of the same things? Have we not separated Jesus Christ into factions? And yet, Paul reminds us, was it this denomination that crucified for you? Was it this denomination that was crucified for you? Did that pastor died for you? Did that podcast that you celebrate? Did it die for you or have you lost your way? Have you celebrated something that's man made, a program and a system, and the Lord is saying, have you forgotten about Christ? In many ways we have become followers of religious systems, a denomination, a particular teacher, or are we first and foremost followers of Christ? The church was never intended to be defined by allegiances to men or movements. It was purchased by the blood of Christ. But the question remains relevant today, as it was nearly two thousand years ago. Is Christ still divided into factions, or have we divided what he came to unite? Turn, if you would, to Luke chapter twelve, verses forty nine and fifty three. Luke chapter twelve, verses forty nine through fifty three. I have come to set the world on fire, and how I wish it were already burning. I have a terrible baptism. I'm suffering ahead of me and I am under heavy burden until it is accomplished. Do you think I have come to bring peace to the earth? No. I have come to divide people against each other. From now on, families will be split apart. Three in favor of me and two against. Or two in favor and three against. Father will be divided against son and son against father. Mother against daughter and daughter against mother and mother in law. Against daughter in law and daughter in law against mother in law. You see, on the surface, if you were to read this passage, it could be difficult to understand because it appears that Jesus Christ is here to bring division. He even says it. But remember

when Christ was speaking to the people? There were many times they did not understand what he was saying, and the disciples would always say, why do you speak in parables? Why do you speak in stories? And he says, it's not for them to understand. You understand, because it was a heart posture that they had. This is no different. On the surface, Luke twelve forty nine through fifty three can be difficult. But when we read with spiritual eyes, we see that this passage is less about division and more about distinction. Jesus said, I came to cast fire on the earth, and how I wish it burned. The fire he is speaking of is the Holy Spirit. And what fire does and how fire responds. It's based upon what's placed in it. What you said in fire is how fire will respond. See? Fire reveals. And the Lord was saying, I'm. I'm here to do something. I'm here to use the fire to reveal something. We understand that the fire is the representation of the Holy Spirit. And the Lord is saying, I have come to set the Holy Spirit on fire in the world, and how I wish it burned, but I have a baptism to go to. Now listen, watch the word. See, the Lord was very, very clever with his words. Every word was tactical. He meant it. See, he was talking about fire on the world. And then he said, baptism. Now why would he put those two words together? Because he knew there was a baptism coming for all of us, and that fire would define us, and that fire would reveal who we are. And this is what Christ was saying. You see, the Holy Spirit searches every heart. Distinguishing truth from deception. Authentic faith from empty profession. Surrender from resistance and the shakable from the unshakable. Our God is a consuming fire. God's fire doesn't merely destroy. It reveals, refines, and establishes what belongs in his unshakable kingdom. The division Jesus describes is not his ultimate purpose, but the inevitable result of his holy presence and humanity's response to him. Did you hear me? Wait a minute, Pastor Kevin Bishop. It says God came to divide. No, no, no. God came to set the world on fire. God came to set the world on fire. If I set you on fire and I set you on fire. It depends on how you respond to the fire, whether or not you are separated. Let me see if I can clear it up. I serve this denomination. I serve this denomination. I like this pastor. But because we've taken the fire out of our churches, we have division. But what the Lord said is, if you let me set fire to it, I'll separate the sin from the sinner. And if you allow the fire, you won't have division. You'll be separated from what I meant. You be separated, sin separated from my creation, right? Yeah, yeah, yeah. And this is what the Lord meant by. And how I truly wish it was here. How can you relate a Lord and say, the Lord came to bring division with the same Lord that said, God so loved the world that he gave his own life. I don't see division, I see separation and I don't see separation from denomination, from denomination. I see separation when the power of the Holy Spirit comes upon me, I become a new creation. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives within me. And because Christ lives within me, I don't have problems with sin anymore, or sickness or disease or doubt or fear or anxiety. Because now I have been separated out because of the fire. Yeah. And this is what the Lord is trying to convey. He is trying to convey it in our churches now. I contest now the reason why you see division is not because of Christ, because of man's response to Christ. Response to the power of the Holy Spirit. But I've learned something. Even when you think the spirit isn't working, it's always working because it reveals the truth. Amen. I learned a long time ago that the truth was here to set me free. Not always make me happy, right? Yes. So I'm looking at denominations, make crazy statements like women. Shouldn't preach or speak or even have a podcast. No, I'm not afraid to talk about it. I do not agree with it as if that's the most important topic of our time. But then the Lord said. You don't think that's my revealing

process? You think I'm only here to reveal what's good. You see, fire burns up what cannot remain. The Lord is allowing the shaking so the unshakeable can remain. So the gold and the silver are refined. That's your faith and your hope and love. And the Lord does this because he wants distinction. He wants clear choices. He wants people to have a clear line. This is good and this is not. He did not come to divide, but he came to give us a clear choice. And it's fire that brings out that clear choice.

Speaker 3 Yes, yes, yes.

Pastor Kevin This is why so many churches struggle. They struggle because the fire has not been let in. They have not yielded to the power of the Holy Spirit. So if the Holy Spirit is not God, if it doesn't have lordship over the church, how can you ever receive the truth?

Speaker 3 Right?

Pastor Kevin The Lord said, he will reveal everything I say the truth about Jesus Christ and everything he hears God say to me. And I don't do anything that the father doesn't do. So when you listen to the Holy Spirit, you are direct access to the father because Jesus Christ is the bridge.

Speaker 3 Yes.

Pastor Kevin Do you see it?

Speaker 3 Yes.

Pastor Kevin If people do not yield to the power of the Holy Spirit, you have no hope to step in truth. This is not just for a congregation, it's for your own life. And the Lord is trying to reveal what is true about you. I got a little bit of a story to read. I want you to see it in action. I want you to see it move. I know this seems hard, but it won't be. Because we're going to be intentional about baptizing people in the Holy Spirit. It won't just be have you come down and receive salvation? Have you done water baptism? Let's stop there because the rest of it's weird. No no no no no no no. We're going to step right into the perfecting process and we're going to say, If Jesus Christ came out of the waters and was baptized with the Holy Spirit as it came on him like a dove, and I want to be like Christ, then maybe I should be baptized in the Holy Spirit. How can the same spirit that raised Christ from the dead dwell in me if I don't seek it the way he once had it?

Speaker 3 Yeah.

Pastor Kevin I told you, we get to the book of acts. Acts chapter eight, verses four through twenty five. I got some reading to do. Lord help my speech impediment. I'll even get some water. I feel like Moses sometimes left handed, five foot eight Chalmette guy who has a speech impediment. Love it. That's going to be a preacher. And I can't see either. Acts chapter eight four through twenty five. My strongest critics are the closest people to me. Gosh, don't worry about me ever getting a big head. Not here. I went across the lake with two ladies that I love, and they let me have it the whole time. I would rather swim in Lake Pontchartrain next

time, so. But it's. But it's okay. Alright. But the believers who were scattered preached the good news about Jesus wherever they went. Philip, for example, went to the city of Samaria and told the people there about the Messiah. Crowds listened intently to Philip because they were eager to hear his message and see the miracle signs he did. Many evil spirits were cast out screaming as they left their victims, and many who had been paralyzed or lame were healed. So there was great joy in that city. A man named Simon had been a sorcerer there for many years. Amazing. The people of Samaria and claiming to be someone great. Everyone from the least to the greatest, often spoke of him as the Great One of power of the power of God. They listen closely to him because for a long time he had astounded them with his magic. But now the people believed Philip's message of good news concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ. As a result, many men and women were baptized. Then Simon himself believed and was baptized. He began following Philip wherever he went, and he was amazed by the signs and great miracles Philip performed. When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that the people of Samaria had accepted God's message, they sent Peter and John there. As soon as they arrived, they prayed for these new believers to receive the Holy Spirit. MM. Wait a minute. That seems like salvation and baptism. Oh, then another one. Okay. Three of them got you. The Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them, for they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. They had only been water baptized. So you mean there's another step?

Speaker 3 Yes.

Pastor Kevin Mhm. It's what makes you peculiar. But not in the way you think. It makes you peculiar. Because when everybody has anxiety, you don't. When everybody fears, you don't. When everybody's worried, you're not. When Simon saw that the spirit was given, when the apostles laid their hands on people, he offered them money to buy this power. Wait a minute. Was he saved? And what about her? Okay, let me have this power too. He exclaimed, so that when I lay my hands on people, they will receive the Holy Spirit. But Peter replied, May your money be destroyed with you for thinking God's gift can be bought. You can have no part in this, for your heart is not right with God. Repent of your wickedness and pray to the Lord. Perhaps he will forgive your evil thoughts, for I can see that you are full of bitter jealousy and have held captive in sin. Pray to the Lord for me. Simon exclaimed that this terrible things you have said won't happen to me. After testifying and preaching the word of the Lord in Samaria, Peter and John returned to Jerusalem, and they stopped in many Samaritan villages along the way to preach the good News. Here we have Philip and I really want to dissect this story in a few ways, because the only thing you need to see is when the Holy Spirit was inserted. When the fire was set upon that place, everything changed. So here we have Philip. Philip is a great guy. He is led by all truth. You could tell, Philip has the power of the Holy Spirit by him because it opened up saying that they were scattered, they were being chased down. But you know what I love about Philip? Philip is like us. See, many of us are going through something, but Philip keeps pressing forward. Philip is not worried about what is chasing him. Philip knows that if they catch him in the act of preaching about Jesus, he could very well die. But instead of worrying about what's behind him, he has the power of the Holy Spirit within him, and he only knows the truth, and the truth tells him to move forward.

Speaker 3 Yes.

Pastor Kevin As a result, Philip is laying hands on people and people are getting freed and delivered and healed. This man, Simon comes along. Simon, like many people in the church, they'll come along. I want to give my life over to the Lord. I'll be bought or baptized. And by the way, I got a big bank account. Can I sit in the front row? Do you see it? Do you see it? Let me tell you what I see. I can attest that the same problem that they had here is the same problem that we have today. See, the Holy Spirit hadn't come yet. And it says that Simon was saved and baptized, and he walked side by side with Philip. We also see that he had some money to buy things. But we couldn't tell what was in Simon's heart. Yet, because the power of the Holy Spirit hadn't come to reveal what was true. Now, if the power of the Holy Spirit is not operating in every church around in Western America with the capital C, could it be that there were people sitting in chairs right now, baptized in water, giving their life over to God, but yet not truly been revealed?

Speaker 3 Yes. That's true.

Pastor Kevin Back to Philip, though. Here comes Peter and John. Peter and John go. I see that the Holy Spirit. Has it fallen here? Has it come here yet? Think about Philip. You want to know how filled with the Holy Spirit is? Philip doesn't go. I'm jealous now. You don't think I could do this without you guys? You gotta come behind me. I'm anointed too. Oh, come on, come on, come on, come on, come on. My little offense. We want lots of laborers. Unless you're laboring in the same field as me, I get all the credit. How many people are walking? But Philip did not receive that. Philip kept carrying out his mission because Philip kept moving forward. Because Philip was baptized in the power of the Holy Spirit. Philip knew what was true about him. He walked in his identity. And when Peter and John came, he was like, yeah, man, go get him, get him. There's plenty for the taking.

Speaker 3 Yes.

Pastor Kevin The harvest is right, but the laborers are few. So why are we eliminating laborers since? So we can have a higher platform. West Saint Tammany Parish, maybe. Oh, I need ten thousand people in my church. Fifteen. It'll never be enough. Because really, what you're concerned about is how many people walk through the door, pay their tithe. Not if Holy Spirit truth is revealed. Because if Holy Spirit truth is revealed, you lose all control. And then maybe, just maybe, he might reveal something about you.

Speaker 3 Right?

Pastor Kevin I don't mean it to be hard. I don't mean it to be hard. But God came to set fire. And the fire leads us to truth. If we're not lovers of truth, what are we doing? And so Philip does a great job. But Peter and John come. Peter and John don't come. These guys are dogs. They don't come in their suit.

Speaker 3 Right?

Pastor Kevin They don't come flying in on that plane. Blow Up Holy Spirit Conference twenty

twenty seven. Peter and John are coming. We got seventy five different musicians coming. Don't worry about it. We can seat the world. Everybody gets a banana and a granola bar. I've seen it. I've seen thousands of people meet and nothing happens. We just all met. We said the name of Jesus. We just didn't invite him in. No. Peter and John say, I'm not here to speak a message. I'm here to tell you there's something you don't have. Be baptized in the power of the Holy Spirit. Be baptized in the power of the Holy Spirit. Be baptized in the power of the Holy Spirit. Be baptized in the power of the Holy Spirit because it's going to reveal all truth. It's going to reveal all truth. Truth about you, truth about me, truth about this place, truth about Christ. This is what they did. Look at the leadership. Look at the truth because they trusted the power of the Holy Spirit.

Speaker 3 Amen.

Pastor Kevin Now watch this. My favorite part of this is the truth about God. He's beautiful. You want to see good news? Simon goes to Peter and John and says, I've been. I've been saved. I've been water baptized. But that cool thing you did, that guy who was walking like this and now he's running. That's what I really want to do. Can I buy that? Because I've been sitting on the front row for a long time, and I noticed you've been anointing all these people that are least of these. But I want to know why I'm not getting anointing, because I've been sitting in the front row and I've been writing all the time checks. I'm the one. You should be paying attention. I buy the donut. I sit in that parking lot. You see this big old building. It should have my name on it. And that's where Peter. Yeah, I know.

Speaker 3 Oh, that's the problem. Yeah.

Pastor Kevin You think your money can buy this? But insert the truth about God. God says. Pray to the Lord. Simon explained that these terrible things will not happen to me. The Lord said, despite how you tried to buy it, you have an opportunity to really repent right now. see, I'm not casting you out. I know that your heart wasn't right. I know you weren't truly saved. I know you didn't truly give your life over. You want the water back. But now that the Holy Spirit has revealed the truth about you, you have another chance. Because I love you so much, Simon, that I'm willing to disregard what you just did. No matter how bad it gets, no matter how many times we have compromised ourselves, the Lord is saying we've all been Simon at one time, and he's saying, no matter how many times you've been Simon, I'm willing to let it all go. Just let the power of the Holy Spirit reveal the truth about you. And guess what? Reveal the truth about me. The greatest part of this story is it didn't matter that Simon tried to buy it. The Lord said Peter's, just repent. Just repent. All is good. Repent. Transform metanoia. Transform. But the reason why we're not seeing transformation in metanoia is because the power of the Holy Spirit is not allowed to be activated and do its work because we're not surrendered. And people think repentance is one time, come down, get some water. Come back up. I'll be good. Twenty years ago I did it, okay? But the Lord is saying metanoia means transformation. That's one measure of glory to the next measure of glory. I don't know what number you're on. Measure glory. I really don't know what number I am, but I know I'm not on the one I started with.

Speaker 3 Right.

Pastor Kevin And the Lord said, Kevin, look at it again. Peter and John were intentional. Be baptized in the power of the Holy Spirit. Be baptized in the power of the Holy Spirit. Be baptized in the power of the Holy Spirit. I'm here to tell you, we will baptize people and the power of the Holy Spirit. This was the fire that he wanted on the earth, not to create division, but absolutely to separate, to separate you from your demise, from your sin. And the only reason why there is division is because people are not responding to the fire. But the Lord's grace and mercy for all the Simons out there is like, if you want another shot, my oil is here. I'll just turn on the valve. It'll come right up on you. And every problem you once had can be forgiven. And you can move from one measure of glory to the next. That's the good news about the father. It's never too late, right? You know, when people ask me, what do you think about this new doctrine? What do you think about what some pastor said or what some denomination decreed? I often say the same response. I don't care, and I don't throw the baby out with the bathwater. It's a crude expression when you think about it, but I don't. So many of us are willing to say, he offended me. I'm done. So many of us are willing to say, well, because that happened, we'll disregard everything he wrote in the Passion Translation, when the only thing they're talking about is some plagiarism that they already accepted as truth. Okay. The whole Bible is plagiarizing. Okay, I gotta figure that one out. Since we're all plagiarizing. Jesus. Okay. And then his credentials. So is it really about what he wrote, or is it about his credentials? And I'm not saying you trust it or not. What I'm saying is, watch the spirit move in confusion. Watch it move. What I'm saying is I haven't made a decision, but I know this. I don't go jumping. I don't move with every way of the wind because I'm controlled by the power of the Holy Spirit. If I need to consult somebody, it won't be man. I'll put my walking shoes on, I'll put my headphones on, I'll put on worship music and I'll say, Lord, I don't know everything, but you do. And I'll walk with him and I'll speak in my prayer language. And all of a sudden lightning will strike my brain. And the Lord will say, walk this way, son, because he is faithful and he's true, and his promises are always yes and Amen. I heard if you would to first Corinthians chapter two, verses ten through fourteen. I'm a little rough today too, because I'm barely making it through. But it was to us that God revealed these things by His Spirit, for His spirit searches out everything and shows us God's deep secrets. No one can know a person's thoughts except that person's own spirit. And no one can know God's thoughts except God's own spirit. And we have received God's Spirit, not the world's spirit. So we can know the wonderful things God has freely given us. When we tell you these things, we do not use words that come from human wisdom. I can't use human wisdom at Mark two twenty two for two reasons. Number one, God won't let me. Number two. I'm not that wise. Not on my own. My wisdom has always come from the Lord. I just happen to start recognizing it a few years ago. And when I did, He said. Here's some more. Instead, we speak words given to us by the spirit, using the Spirit's words to explain spiritual truths. We try to use man made wisdom way too much to explain a spiritual truth. But people who aren't spiritual can't receive these truths. Wow. Wow. Can I, can I? Who do you think of when he says that? But people who aren't spiritual can't receive these truths from God's Spirit. See, the mistake would be if you just think of worldly people. Very rarely did Jesus Christ go and correct the world. He was always correcting the church. This is a letter to the church. It all sounds foolish to them, and they cannot understand. For only those who are spiritual can understand what the spirit means. The Lord said it was good that I go because if I go, the helper will come. The advocate, the one. Watch this that is like

me. I think that's one of the things the church has a problem with. They've categorized the Holy Spirit as weird and strange. It's something that moves and something we can't really control. Not realizing that when you say things like, we serve the Holy Spirit with the seat belt or guardrails, what you're really saying is I put a seatbelt on. God, I put guardrails around God. See, we're spiritual with the seat belt. Well, then you haven't surrendered. And if you haven't surrendered, then he can't remove the veil. If he can't remove the veil, you can't receive revelation. If you can't receive revelation, you don't really experience true metanoia and you don't transform, right? This is the truth. I didn't say it would always be easy, but the spirit of truth actually is when you yield. The Lord said in acts of one thing I thought Damon Thompson's message on following was one of the best I ever heard. I do not care that I mark two twenty two and he is something else. I don't get jealous of brothers in Christ. Listen to it because it will build you. And if that builds you, it makes you a better congregant in this place. Great. That's what I want. But in his message he said, we were commanded to do one thing. Follow me. Follow me. Oh, I know the road looks tough, but just. Just keep following. I'll lead you to all truth. Let the power just follow. But Lord I feel like. No no no no no. Don't feel nothing. Just follow me. Lay down in green pastures. Beside still waters. Let me restore your soul. I'll lead you down the path of righteousness. But it won't be for you. It'll be for my name's sake. And when difficulty comes. I'll protect you with my rod and my staff. I'll anoint your head with oil in the presence of your enemies. It'll be to the point where your cup overfloweth. It'll be the goodness and mercy you know me for. You may feel like a Simon some days, but it doesn't matter because you'll continue to go through metanoia as I reveal more and more of myself to you. Because my grace and mercy is new every morning. I love you, and I'm not doing this to embarrass you. I'm doing this to tell you you are a strong woman in Christ. And in the name of Jesus, you will step into the identity of who you are. Yes, the Lord has stretched you, and the Lord is saying, daughter, stand up and be the young lady of Christ that I meant you to be. Everything that I have given you is from me. He loves you. He loves you.

Speaker 5 Lord, I.

Pastor Kevin And I don't care. Yes, I speak in tongues. It's a vital weapon. And I want all the tools in my tool belt. Because I don't believe that some powers went away. When I'm told that the same spirit that raised Christ from the dead dwells in me. How am I parting with that? I want to finish by saying this. You want to know what's true. Let me tell you what's true. When you get so deep in the spirit. You can't help but love. That's right. That's right. I got people I should be upset with. I can't do it. Now, listen, I can't, I can't like, there'll be a moment where I feel like, well, maybe I could get angry right now. No. And the Lord goes now more love and then I end up going. I think I want to send a love text. And then I end up sending a love text and I go, I'm like, alright, Lord, you took away my truck. I'm driving this little car. I'm sending love texts out to men. I don't know what's going on. I'm like, it's total mess. And the Lord's like, I got you exactly where I want you. And it's the best I've ever felt. It's the best I've ever felt. I've been drained this whole week. I got into my cul de sac and I was like, man, I don't feel sick for at least these forty five minutes because in the presence of God, you can't be sick, right? In Mark two twenty two, we're going to be intentional about something. We're going to be intentional to baptize people in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Speaker 3 Yes.

Pastor Kevin Go read acts chapter eight. Acts chapter ten. Acts chapter nineteen. Acts chapter twenty one. It's all over the place. And if we're going to return to the power and presence of the church in the book of acts, then we better start acting like the book of acts.

Speaker 3 Yeah.

Pastor Kevin But what's going to happen is you're not going to get weird. You're going to get cool. Yeah. You're going to be the one that your friends call. That's right. When it really gets bad. You're the prayer warrior, Green Beret. You're the Navy Seal. Come on. How many people have been? I haven't heard somebody for seven years haven't called me. Hey, I'm. I'm in a hospital. Can you get over here? Seven years. That's completion, buddy. I'm coming. And because you love. because you love you. Don't worry about the seven years you run in there because you are reflecting God's love. People ask me, what do you think of this? What do you think of this? What do you think of this? This denomination is hear me from the leader of Mark two twenty two. I don't care. Not that I don't care about people. I don't care what the religious spirit is doing. I don't care what the enemy is doing. I love all the people, but I have already separated them in my mind. We do not fight flesh and blood. I know who my enemy is and I don't move with every wave of doctrine. I will put my headphones on, I will walk, and the one thing you could trust about me is I will seek the Lord before I ever speak to you.

Speaker 3 Yes.

Pastor Kevin That is a promise I can give you.

Speaker 3 Yeah.

Pastor Kevin But I want one from you. That you don't trust me, but you trust the Jesus inside of me.

Speaker 3 Yes.

Pastor Kevin Paul said this. He said, mimic what? I do not be like Paul. Paul said, be like me in the way I follow. Think about that. Don't try to be a leader like me, because if you want to be a leader like me, then you need to follow like me. Which means you have to be humble and throw down your leadership crown, just like the twenty four elders did in the in the throne room. They throw it down at the one who is truly the leader. See, when you give power to the Holy Spirit, you go into the throne room. You are on the mountain of Zion. You are around a heavenly host of angels. You got all the clouds of witnesses and the only thing you can do when you get in the presence is take your leadership crown and throw it.

Speaker 3 Yeah.

Pastor Kevin That's what's going to happen in this church. We will be intentional in the coming weeks to baptize people in the Holy Spirit. And if you've already been. Guess what? Good news for you. In the book of acts, they were filled again and filled again and filled again. Go check it out. It's the coolest thing in the world. The Lord says, if you keep emptying out, I'll

keep pouring in. So guess what? Even if you got it, we're putting out refills. This is like Coca-Cola. You buy one drink, you get it for free every time. This is what's going to happen. We're never turning off the valve. Would you please stand? I'm going to ask something of you. I want you to be intentional. We have intercessory prayer. People like, you know, he's always pushing intercessory prayer. Yeah. Guilty as charged. That's awesome. I think there are a couple titles I like called me and my buddies got accused of. I'll leave it alone. But it was like, guilty as charged. I mean, if I point you to the word and I point you to prayer, that's awesome. That means I'm winning.

Speaker 3 Yeah.

Pastor Kevin Yes. I'm pushing you to intercessory prayer. Don't you think it's unusual that a leader would push you into prayer and the presence of God and not to himself? Yeah. But I'm here to tell you. I can't make you perfect. I can't. I can only lead you to the one who can. We're going to be intentional.

Pastor Kevin If there's anyone in here that wants to receive the power of the Holy Spirit. The altar is open now. Come on down, my brother. Come on down. Y'all just keep coming. Come on. If you want a refill, come on down. Come on.