



## Things to Talk About and Reflect Upon

*"The Promise of the Father"*

### **Points from Sunday's Message**

1. The Filioque is a distraction from the main point and purpose of Holy Scripture and the Holy Spirit.
2. The Holy Spirit was promised and given to empower God's people to accomplish God's mission.
3. The issue that caused the division is a distraction from the mission.
4. The Holy Spirit helps us to focus on the task and accomplish the mission.
5. The Holy Spirit brings the fullness of God's presence and power into our lives today.

### **Key Verse:**

*"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

— Acts 1:8

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Pastor Miles explained how a single phrase—"and the Son"—in the Nicene Creed contributed to a major division in church history.
  - Why do you think Christians sometimes allow relatively small doctrinal differences to cause significant division? **Further Reading: John 17:20–23; 1 Corinthians 1:10–13**
2. Pastor Miles emphasized that the Holy Spirit was given to empower us for God's mission, not to fuel theological squabbles. What are some "distractions" (theological, political, personal) that could pull you away from the mission God has given you? How can you refocus?
  - **Further Reading: Acts 1:6–8**

3. Jesus promised “another Helper” who would be with us forever (John 14:16–18). How does knowing the Holy Spirit is always with you affect your confidence in sharing your faith or living out your calling?
4. Galatians 5:22–23 lists the fruit of the Spirit. Which of these qualities do you see God growing in your life right now? Which are you asking Him to strengthen?

- ***Further Reading: Galatians 5:16–26***

5. Ephesians 4:1–6 calls us to maintain “the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” How can humility, gentleness, and patience protect the unity of your local church, even when doctrinal or personal disagreements arise?
6. Pastor Miles noted that the enemy would love to sideline God’s people through division and distraction. What practical steps can we take as individuals and as a small group to keep our eyes on Christ’s mission in our community?

- ***Further Reading: Matthew 28:18–20; Luke 24:46–49***

*Use these blended questions for deeper personal reflection, prayer, or small group discussion.*