



WITNESS Sermon Study Guide

Week 8: Prophecy & Witness Cath Livesey

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This week we had the privilege of hearing from guest speaker Cath Livesey, from *Accessible Prophecy*, as we reflected on joining the Holy Spirit in God's mission to the world.

The Spirit of Regeneration

Read John 3:5-8 and Romans 8:14-17

The term *Missio Dei*—meaning the mission of God—reminds us that mission isn't just an activity of the church, but the very heartbeat of God. It's in His nature to restore and heal a broken world, and the Holy Spirit is constantly at work, drawing people to God and birthing new life.

When we say yes to being witnesses, we're not starting from scratch. We're stepping into divine work which is already happening. Evangelism isn't about working for God, but working with Him.

1. Consider the idea of witness as a partnership with the Holy Spirit. How does it change your perspective to think of evangelism as joining in the Spirit's work rather than striving on your own?
2. How can you actively participate in what the Spirit is already doing in your community, workplace, friendships and family?

The Trusted Friend

"I will ask the Father and he will give you another *parakletos* to be with you forever." John 14:16

Read John 14:16 in a few different Bible versions (eg. NIV, KJV, NLV, MSG). Jesus describes the Holy Spirit as the *Parakletos*—a multifaceted Greek word meaning helper, comforter, advocate, and friend. The Holy Spirit is a personal, trusted companion who walks with us every day.



When we build a friendship with the Spirit, His voice becomes more familiar. We start recognising those small nudges, those inner prompts that lead us to share a word, pray for someone, or step into an opportunity. Being a witness is about paying attention and keeping in step.

1. Have you ever experienced a nudge from the Holy Spirit? What happened?
2. What practical steps could you take to better recognise and respond to the Spirit's whispers?

The One Who Empowers Us

Read Acts 1:1-10 and Acts 2:1-41

The Holy Spirit isn't just a source of comfort, He also equips us for action. Before Jesus sent His disciples out, He told them to wait until they were "clothed with power from on high" (Luke 24:49). This same power is available to us today. But, the power of the Holy Spirit isn't about worldly strength or domination—it's about divine strength in our weakness.

When we look at the transformation in the disciples after Pentecost, we see the incredible difference the Holy Spirit makes. We are like jars of clay, carrying the all-surpassing power of God within us; empowered to be bold witnesses, to love beyond our limits, and to be a peaceful presence in our workplaces, neighbourhoods, and relationships.

1. How does the power of the Holy Spirit differ from worldly power?
2. In what ways do you tend to rely on your own strength rather than the Spirit's power?

The Call to Unconditional Surrender

Cath spoke about different levels of relationship with the Holy Spirit—regeneration, friendship, and power—but the deepest level is unconditional surrender. It's when we hold nothing back and align our will completely with God's. It's stepping into the wild waters of the Spirit, letting go of control, and trusting Him fully.

The Holy Spirit isn't something we experience once and then move on. We are called to continuously receive, trust, and follow. So, as you go into this week, take a



moment to ask: *Holy Spirit, where are you leading me?* Be ready. Be expectant. When you keep in step with the Spirit, you never know what can “just happen.”

1. Are there areas in your life where you're holding back from the Holy Spirit's leading? Are there areas in your life where you sense His prompting to step out in faith?
2. What does unconditional surrender to the Holy Spirit look like in your life and in your witness to others?