

Marks of a 
SPIRIT FILLED
CHURCH

Marks of a Spirit-Filled Church

- The Scriptures teach us the following about the Triune God: the Father is the *originator* of all things, the Son is the *revealer* of the one true God, and the Holy Spirit is the *completer* of God's divine program and plan for the world.
- In the OT, the Holy Spirit was at work in creation, empowered key individuals, and he filled the Temple for a time. But it was through Jesus that the Spirit came in a unique way—empowering him to bring about the Kingdom on the earth.
- After Jesus is resurrected, he tells his disciples that the Spirit would soon empower them to proclaim the Gospel and continue his mission to make disciples and build his church.
- In *Marks of a Spirit-Filled Church*, we will consider what it looks like when the Spirit is at work in a church, and what we must do to welcome his transforming presence.

Joel 2:28-30 NIV—Prophecy Regarding Last Days

²⁸ I will pour out my Spirit on all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy,
your old men will dream dreams,
your young men will see visions.

²⁹ Even on my servants, both men and women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those days.

³⁰ I will show wonders in the heavens
and on the earth,
blood and fire and billows of smoke.

Luke 3:21-22 NIV—Holy Spirit Comes Upon Jesus

²¹ When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened
²² and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

John 14:15-17 NIV—Promise to Give the Holy Spirit

¹⁵ “If you love me, obey my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. ¹⁷ He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn’t looking for him and doesn’t recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you.

Luke, Acts 1: 1-3 NIV—Luke's Gospel, Vol. 2

¹ In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ² until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³ After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.

Acts 1:4-5 NIV

⁴ On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”



Acts 2:42-45 NIV

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.

Acts 2:46-47 NIV

⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Marks of a Spirit-Filled Church

According to Acts, a Spirit-filled church looks like...

- 1. Full devotion to Christ and the church.**
It's not just a weekend thing or a "free time" event.
- 2. A shared sense of awe at what the Spirit is doing.**
There are clear supernatural things happening.
- 3. A unity of people, passion, and purpose.**
It's about knowing and obeying Jesus via the church.
- 4. Giving sacrificially to the needs of others.**
There is a sharing "everything in common" for Christ.
- 5. God giving the growth because of our faithfulness.**
We adjust our sails to the wind of the Spirit.

What is God saying to you?

Questions to reflect on this morning:

1. Have you received the Spirit and been fully devoted to Christ and his mission for the church?
2. When is the last time you were in awe with how God was changing lives and growing your church?
3. Is there anything that keeps your church from being on mission to the surrounding community?
4. How is God calling you to give more toward the pursuit of CMF being a Spirit-filled church?

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Sermon audio & slides in PDF can be downloaded at:
www.christiansburgmennonite.org