

The Baptism of The Holy Spirit

Fecha @October 18, 2023

SILENCE, PRAYER AND WORSHIP.

Take a minute to be in silence and put your focus on Jesus.

DIVIDE IN TRIADS.

- 1) Share one or two good things that you experience this passed week.
- 2) Share one or two bad things that you experience this passed week.

GRUPOS EVIDENCIAS | TEMPORADA III.

We are very happy that each one of you are here. Whether this is your first time in a group, or coming is part of your lifestyle. Whether you are a child, teenager, young adult, or an adult, we know that God is going to do something great as we put the teachings into practice and live in community.

Today we are going to be doing two simple but important practices. In the first part, we will be talking about the teaching from Sunday and how we can put it into practice. And in the second part, we will be talking about some important and exciting details coming for this new season of Grupos Evidencias.

To start,

- Who would like to share what excites you about this new season of the Grupos Evidencia?

SUMMARY.

Jesus' disciples were worried when He was announcing His death because they did not know who was going to accompany them, care for them, and teach them as He had been doing for the last three years; That is why Jesus left the promise that he was going to send his Spirit, to continue doing everything he did. And Jesus said that he would come upon them, and us, that we might be completely filled.

SUNDAY'S TEACHING.

- What did the Holy Spirit speak to you (or got your attention) about Sunday's teaching?

Acts 1:4-5

- How would you feel if the person who was teaching, guiding, comforting and helping you for three years started telling you that he was going to die?
- Why do you think Jesus ordered his disciples not to leave where they were until the Holy Spirit came upon them?
- What does this passage teach you about the importance of being baptized with the Holy Spirit to be an apprentice of Jesus, in New Jersey, in 2023?

THIS WEEK'S PRACTICE.

Jesus sent the Spirit of God to empower us to do what he did. Jesus promised that we would be baptized with his Spirit to empower us to do what Jesus did here on earth.

There are two gifts that the Apostle Paul emphasized; the gift of tongues and the gift of prophecy. The gift of tongues is for personal edification and communication with God through the Holy Spirit. And the gift of prophecy is for the edification of the community.

The gift of tongues is something that the Holy Spirit gives in his sovereignty, and at the same time, it is something that we receive with faith and put into practice. So the practice this week is to continue asking the Holy Spirit to baptize you and in faith, begin to practice the gift of tongues if you believe that the Holy Spirit gave it to you.

Remember, these gifts are that, gifts. So you don't have to deserve them, just to want them and be constant in asking the Holy Spirit to give them to you.

Emotionally Healthy Community Guidelines

As we practice Jesus, we need fellow travelers, a community to help us along the way. But community doesn't happen by accident; it takes time, effort, intentionality, and long-term commitment. So where do we start? How do we find a community of people with

whom we can practice Jesus? At Casa Evidencias we believe that the best way to do it is in small groups, around a table with people from all kinds of backgrounds and ages.

That is why we have Grupos Evidencias, to make it YOUR COMMUNITY.

These are some guidelines that will allow us all to be on the same page as we build this community, not based on tastes or preferences, but based on the call of Jesus to Live in Community.

1. **Be Prepared:** To make the most of our time in Grupos Evidencias, it is important that we all commit to participating in the practices at our own time during the week and to going to church (or listening to the Sunday teaching if for some reason could not go). And to bring your guide printed.
2. **Speak in first person:** We encourage you to share and always speak in the first person. Instead of saying "everyone's busy" or "we all have a hard time forgiving," say "I'm busy" or "I have a hard time forgiving." And if you are in an group with your parents, or siblings, avoid speaking for them.
3. **Respect the time:** Be brief when sharing, being aware that there are time constraints and that others may want to share.
4. **Do not try to fix, or correct other people:** It is very important that we respect the different paths of people and trust the Holy Spirit within them to guide them to all truth, in their time. Resist the urge to offer quick advice as people share in the group.
5. **Don't make assumptions:** If you feel critical of someone or defensive when someone else is sharing, ask yourself: I wonder what led them to this belief. I wonder what he/she is feeling right now. I wonder what my reaction teaches me about myself. Try to focus more on your reaction, instead of what the other person shared.
6. **Trust and learn from silence:** It is okay to have silence between responses as the group shares, giving members a chance to reflect. Remember, there is no pressure to share.
7. **Maintain confidentiality:** To create a safe environment for open and honest participation, anything someone shares within the group should not be repeated outside the group. However, feel free to share your own story and personal growth.

Note: The only exception to confidentiality is threat or harm done to self or others. In this case THE FACILITATOR will take care of it.

8. **Consistency:** To create a community where we can grow, get to know each other, and create a safe space, we must be constant and do our best to come every week to Grupos Evidencias and to church on Sundays.
9. **Get out of your comfort zone:** We all want to grow, and in order to grow we must get out of our comfort zone. For some, it would be to share, so do your best to share, and for other it would be to let other people share, so do your best to let other people share.

Note: We encourage you to put your phone on silent and put it away when you arrive at the group. And try to bring the guide printed or on a tablet. Avoid using it on your cell phone to avoid distractions.

Commitments of Grupos Evidencias

Like any family, in order to be healthy and grow, the active participation of everyone is needed and not just a few people. We believe that Grupos Evidencia are a family, and everyone's participation is of utmost importance. So we have four commitments that we ask all of us to commit to so we can continue to grow together.

1. **Attend Grupos regularly:** In order to grow in trust and love, consistency is important. We ask that you attend regularly on Wednesdays and do not miss unless there is a valid reason.
2. **Let your facilitador know if you are not going to attend:** There are many details that the facilitators prepare for each Wednesday. From the food, to the number of chairs. If for any reason you will not be attending on a Wednesday, we ask that you please call the facilitator to let them know so they can make any necessary adjustments.
3. **Be intentional the rest of the week:** If we are a family, we will do our best to continue creating friendship and community on the other days of the week apart from Wednesdays and Sundays. Whether inviting for a coffee, a birthday, or just a visit. Reach out to people in your community, especially those you don't know yet.
4. **Active participation:** It is important that we all participate. By sharing in the group and not disconnecting but also in responsibilities such as with food. Someone in the

group is going to be in charge of letting you know who can bring what, on what day.
So it's not a burden for just one person.

All of this is optional and we do it for the sole purpose that we can all actively participate, and engage with our community so that we can grow together.