

Introduction:

- “And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.” (Luke 1:35, ESV)
- The Holy Spirit plays a dominant roll in the Christmas story. I say that because He plays a disruptive part in the lives of all the main characters.
 - He not only plays a disruptive part in their lives but He is still disrupting lives today.
 - He is the intrusion of the divine purpose of God in human affairs! His intrusion leaves God implanted in people’s lives all over the world.
 - As we look at the meaning of Christmas this year, I want us to see the Holy Spirit’s activity in Christmas, but also to see His activity in our lives and the lives of others around us.
- There is a moment in Star Wars (The Empire Strikes Back) where Darth Vader is on the Super Star Destroyer with Emperor Palpatine and Palpatine says, “There is a disturbance in the force.”
 - Palpatine is an evil man, who is reigning over an evil empire. He wants all enslaved.
 - When he says there is a ‘disturbance in the force’ he is referring to something ‘good’ happening in his dark world and he does not like it.

I. The Holy Spirit Disrupts

- A. He moves in stealth. I.e. John 3, Jesus compares Holy Spirit to the wind. “*The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes...*” (John 3:8, ESV)
 1. Most people do not recognize the movement of the Holy Spirit in their lives. Christians are more likely to recognize the Holy Spirit, but many of them do not know His ways.
 2. People who do not know the Holy Spirit will totally not see Him working in their lives until they come into relationship with Him. Then they will say, “That was God the Holy Spirit at work there!” Hindsight.
 3. Because He is often not recognized as God at work in persons life, we say, He moves in stealth, quietly, unnoticed, but make profound impact.
- B. He intrudes in the personal concerns of people. In other words, “He messes with us!”
 1. I.e. This soil has been in the flower pot for quite some time. Can you see how it is pressed down, compacts, crusty on top. That is how we often get in life.
 - a) This flower pot has a purpose. It was created grow things in. God has a purpose for each of our lives. But sometimes because we miss Holy Spirit moving in our lives we continue to close him out. Then we get spiritually crusty our souls become dark and unproductive.
 - b) The dirt in this flower pot has a purpose. Its purpose is to help the seed to grow.

- c) Now watch this: If I am going to grow a seed in this pot I am going to have to disrupt the soil. And after I disrupt the soil I intrude on the soil with my finger pushing a hole in. When I have disrupted and intruded, I plant a seed!
- C. He is the intrusion of divine purpose in the personal lives of people. This tells me that when God gets personally involved in my life His purposes takes priority over mine. Let's look at each of the main people involved in the Christmas story.
1. Zechariah - is a priest. (Kinda like a pastor) He is going about his priestly duties and God surprised him by sending the angel Gabriel. Gabriel tells Zechariah that he is going to be a dad. You will have a son. Call him John. And oh, "he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb." (Luke 1:15, ESV) That is an intrusion!
 2. Elizabeth his wife is older too like her husband. She become pregnant in old age and Mary who is pregnant with Jesus comes to see her. When she hears Mary's voice, "the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit," (Luke 1:41, ESV) That is a disruption and an intrusion. There is a disturbance in the kingdom of darkness.
 3. Mary, the mother of Jesus. Gabriel says to her, "And the angel answered her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.'" (Luke 1:35, ESV) Now that is a disruption and intrusion.
 4. Joseph, Mary's husband. He was going to divorce her. Gabriel shows up in dream. "But as he considered these things, ... 'Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.'" (Matthew 1:20, ESV)
 5. Jesus! Think of the disruption of His life. He came into our world and a massive disruption of the darkness took place. Light came into the World! That will disrupt darkness! That's right! God planted baby Jesus in the womb of Mary by the creative power of the Holy Spirit.
- D. The purpose of disruption and intrusion by the Holy Spirit is for preparation. The Holy Spirit tills up our lives in preparation of planting the Word.

II. The Holy Spirit Plants

He plants the Word of God in our hearts and works to bring forth the purpose(s) of God.

- A. Why does the Holy Spirit plant a seed? le. Bean seed.
1. The seed is filled with potential. That means that this little seed has boatloads of purpose and potential inside of it.
 2. In other words, this seed is very significant! Important to God. Each of your lives is important to God. Your life matters. It is the purpose of the seed. le. Healing

scriptures produce healing, faith scriptures produces faith, salvation scripture produce salvation.

3. The seed is equipped to produce after its own kind.
 - a) Bean seed will give me beans. A tomato seed will give me tomatoes.
 - b) Everything produce after its own kind.
 - c) The Word of God is like a seed. *"It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life."* (John 6:63, ESV)
 - d) If you sow to the Spirit (the Word) you will reap life. If you sow destruction (bad choices) you will reap destruction, darkness and death.

B. How does He plant in our lives?

1. He uses people, Christians: My grandma (ironing and singing victory is Jesus, Mrs. Nielson Vacation Bible school, Jim Derf, John Mongerson, Tom McCann, Anita - ISU, my parents. These were people who sowed the word in me.
2. He uses circumstances. Most of the time they are painful circumstances. Majority of people who come to Christ, come because of the great pain in their hearts and lives. Divorce, death, sickness, rejection, broken heart, addictions, great need. *"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;"* (Isaiah 61:1, ESV) The pain of my circumstances often point me to Christ Jesus my only hope. Ie. It is a wonderful life. George Bailey is praying on a snowy bridge, "Help me Clarence! Help me get back to my wife and kids." The pain in his life was pointed him back to God, his only hope. IE. Sitting on a bus crowded with people, watching the scenery go by, sitting on a bus crowded with people, my life passed before my eyes. All alone in a crowd, wonder how that could be. All alone in a crowd wish it was the end of me.
3. He uses creation. The beauty of a starry night. The beauty of an ocean sunrise. The sight of a new born baby. The beauty of Brevard County sunset. These things cause us to think that only someone bigger than us could do this. Only God! So the Holy Spirit moves in stealth, disrupts and intrudes. He plants the Word. And last...He

III. The Holy Spirit Produces

- A. Mary became pregnant because of the creative working of the Holy Spirit, who came upon her. As she carried the presence of the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit planted in 'her tummy' the Christ child, Jesus our Lord!
- B. The seed planted in her was the Word. The Seed planted in her was full of light, life

and potential!

1. Jesus is called the Word in John 1. *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."* (John 1:1, ESV)
 2. *"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, ..."* (John 1:14, ESV)
 3. *"In him was life, and the life was the light of men."* (John 1:4, ESV)
- C. The Seed planted in her was full purpose! To crush the serpents head (authority). And to destroy the devils work. Notice it is all about us!!!
1. The purpose of crushing the serpent's head. In the Garden of Eden (Gen 3), God prophesied to the serpent. Her Seed shall crush your head.
 2. The purpose of destroying the devils work. *"Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil."* (1 John 3:8, ESV)
 3. The purpose of freeing us from Satan's reign/rule. *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed,"* (Luke 4:18, ESV)
 4. The purpose of harvest. Salvation and souls.
 5. The purpose of heaven on earth. On earth as it is in heaven. "Light of the world, you stepped down into darkness, Opened My Eyes, Let Me See. Beauty That Made This Heart Adore You, Hope Of A Life Spent With You. Here I Am To Worship, Here I Am To Bow Down, Here I Am To Say That You're My God You're Altogether Lovely, Altogether Worthy, Altogether Wonderful To Me"

Conclusion:

- Holy Spirit activity in our lives is often a disturbance of the soil of our heart.
- Holy Spirit intrusion is for the purpose of planting the Word in our hearts.
- Holy Spirit planting the Word in our hearts is to bring the us into the purposes of God in our lives. Our mission statement as a church. **We exist to bring Freedom and Life to people and glory to God.**