Life in the Spirit

Seminar #4

Receiving God's Gift

- 1. Turning to Him: Repentance
 - A. We need a change of direction, a reorientation of our lives;
 - Away from those things which block our relationship with God
 - Towards God and obedience.
 - a) Only when we follow Him can He lead us to a new life.
 - b) God does not want the obedience of slaves, but He wants the obedience of sons and daughters.
 - c) We must accept Jesus as our Lord.
 - B. Repentance Involves:
 - a) Honesty
 - b) Humility
 - c) Renunciation
 - d) Asking forgiveness for what we have done wrong
 - C. We must specifically turn away from non-Christian religions, spiritualism, witchcraft, occultism, sexual intercourse outside of marriage, adultery, murder, robbery, cheating (business deals, exams etc.), lying, slander, drunkenness, illegal drug use.
- 2. Turning to Him: Faith (belief)
 - A. Faith means relying on what God said (Matthew 14:22-23).
 - a) We know what God says is true
 - b) When we see that God has promised us something, we can expect it to happen.
 - B. We can expect God to baptize us in the Spirit (Luke 11:9-13).
 - C. Those who have not been baptized, sacramentally, in water, must be in order to be fully united with Christ.
- 3. Being baptized in the Spirit
 - A. Next week there will be an opportunity to be prayed with to be baptized in the Spirit.
 - B. What we can expect to happen:
 - a) what happened at the first Pentecost-<u>all</u> were filled, not just some.
 - b) we can expect God to touch us personally with the power of His Holy Spirit (initial experience varies)
 - C. Obstacles to receiving God's grace:
 - a) feeling of unworthiness
 - b) fear of making a fool of one's self
 - c) fear of having our personalities taken over
 - d) doubt
 - e) pride
 - f) fear of what others might think