## The Holy Spirit at Work

Like Matthew, Mark, and John, the gospel of Luke was written to bring people to faith in Jesus Christ. Together, let's examine the author, audience, and background of Luke to better understand its unique and valuable perspective on Jesus. We'll also observe the central role of the Holy Spirit throughout Luke's gospel and discuss the impact of a Spirit-empowered life on our discipleship today.

**AWARENESS** Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- What do you know about the gospel of Luke?
- How would you explain the role and work of the Holy Spirit?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: The Holy Spirit at Work

**READ** Luke 1:1-45, Luke 3:21-22, Luke 4:1-21

**REFLECTION** After listening, consider the following questions:

- Host Scott Hoezee taught us that Luke wrote his gospel to Theophilus, which means "lover of God," so whether or not Theophilus was a symbolic name or a real person, Luke's opening address extends to all of us who also love God. As host Darrell Delaney said, "Luke is inviting us right now to step into this story with confidence." What does that mean to you?
- Have you ever considered the truth that the same Spirit that empowered Jesus empowers you? What impact does this have on how you think about the Holy Spirit at work in and through you?
- Why is it important to understand that the Holy Spirit first confirms a person's identity in Christ *before* ever calling them to any kind of kingdom work or ministry?
- How have you experienced the nudging, calling, or confirmation of the Spirit?

## **RELATED PASSAGES** for further study

<u>John 20:31</u>, <u>Matthew 3:13-17</u>, <u>Mark 1:9-13</u>, <u>John 1:29-34</u>, <u>Genesis 1:1-2</u>, <u>Romans 8:14-17</u>, <u>Acts 1:7-8</u>, <u>Romans 8:9-11</u>, 2 Timothy 1:7

## CONCLUSION

As Darrell and Scott closed the episode, they identified three applications for discipleship from our study of the Holy Spirit's presence in the gospel of Luke:

- 1. The Holy Spirit is present from the beginning.
- 2. The Holy Spirit confirms identity before ministry.

3. The Holy Spirit empowers ordinary people for extraordinary work.

In what ways do these truths give you courage to be a faithful presence in your community and be the light God has called you to be? If you're comfortable, try addressing a prayer to the Spirit like Darrell suggested near the end of the episode.

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