Your Questions about Discipleship, the Holy Spirit, and Death

As we encounter our life experiences from the perspective of faith, it is natural to develop questions about the Bible and what it means to live faithfully in each season of our lives. In this episode of *Groundwork*, we discuss questions and topics you sent us this past year. Together, we'll study Scripture to talk about our relationship with God, the Holy Spirit, and what happens after death.

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

- What does the word "discipleship" mean to you? How would you define it in one sentence?
- When does the Holy Spirit show up in the biblical story?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: <u>Your Questions about Discipleship, the Holy Spirit, and</u> Death

READ 1 Samuel 3, Acts 10:44-48, Acts 19:1-7, 1 Corinthians 12:27-31, Philippians 1:20-26, Luke 23:39-43

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- In segment 1, host Scott Hoezee said that everyone experiences a call to a particular vocation. What is your own "call" story? When did you first sense this call internally, and how was it affirmed by others externally?
- What does your church teach about the baptism of the Holy Spirit? In your tradition, is the Spirit central to theology and practice, or more on the periphery?
- In segment 2, Scott reminded us that Christians can cooperate with the Spirit by praying for him to bear fruit in their lives. Reread the fruit of the Spirit in <u>Galatians 5:22-23</u>. Which fruit of the Spirit have you noticed present in your life? Which fruit would you like to pray for a greater filling of from the Holy Spirit?
- In segment 3, host Darrell Delaney stated that what matters most when we die is that we are with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Scott mentioned three traditional views of what happens after death: soul sleep, extinctionism, and the intermediate state. Does one resonate with what you've believed or heard before? What about it feels comforting or unsettling to you?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

Jeremiah 1:4-8, Isaiah 6:8, Acts 2:1-4, Galatians 5, John 14:1-3

CONCLUSION

The path of discipleship is filled with questions. If we ignore them, we risk stumbling; but if we take time to face them, we can walk with greater confidence in faith. Today, we considered questions of vocation and calling, the work of the Holy Spirit, baptism, and the hope of life after death. How have the reflections we shared encouraged you to keep engaging the questions you encounter as you follow Jesus?

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