

Holy Spirit Series
The Forgotten Gift of Christmas
“Minimizing vs. Understanding”
NN Campus
12/01/18

Opening

-comments about 2018 Christmas giving...also giving in general...

-Ferguson Center Event...

-new series this month on the Holy Spirit...SETTING UP TONIGHT...

- Who is the Holy Spirit?
- Where is the Holy Spirit...and Jesus and God?
- The role and function of the Holy Spirit...
- Possibly we'll get into the gifts of the Holy Spirit...

-John 16:14...one of the reasons He is the forgotten gift of Christmas!

-PRAY

Introduction

-who here is married...okay a little survey?

- Stand if you are the more feeling person in the marriage...
- Stand if you are the more analytical person in the marriage...

-If you are the more feeling person...have you ever heard this?

- **Why can't you just calm down?**
- **Why are you always so emotional?**
- **You are just making the situation worse!**
- **What...just listen and not offer solutions?**

-How would your arguments have been different if you had heard this instead?

- It sounds like this is really upsetting to you.
- I'm so sorry your feel that way.
- I didn't know that bothered you so much, what could I do differently next time?
- I can understand why you feel so _____.

-Let me give you two words...

- **Minimizing**
- **Understanding**

-This is true for any relationship!

(desperate...rid ourselves of the feeling of discomfort)

-People who are more analytical are less comfortable in intensely feeling moments so they tend to minimize the emotions of others instead of trying to understand the other person's feelings.

-People who are more feeling are less comfortable in intensely analytical moments so they tend to minimize the critical thinking of others instead of trying to understand the other person's thoughts.

-Minimizing always harms others!

-What does this have to do with this series Fred?

The Mystery

-Most people are uncomfortable with mystery when it comes to Christian beliefs...we want answers!

-So we minimize the mystery instead of doing the heavy lifting of understanding: we ignore it, we deny it, we over-simplify it!

(deny...well, you just don't have enough faith...ARROGANT!)

(over-simplify...God doesn't cause, He allows...MARGINALIZES WITNESS!)

-Minimizing always harms others.

-scale slide (always some mystery, harder as we go, richer as we go...use 1 Corinthians 3:2 for just staring out and Ephesians 4:12-13)

-2 Timothy 2:15

that little extra progress that comes from understanding more is about ministering to others with greater wisdom!

-anyone who tries to tell you there isn't a mystery with it comes to God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit is guilty of minimizing...in fact, it is an ever present part of Christian living.

-Look at these verses...(pick ones about mystery in this life)

- **Job 11:7**
- **1 Corinthians 15:51**
- **1 Corinthians 13:2**
- **Deuteronomy 29:29**

-Here are two more words for you...

- Understanding = Exegesis - drawing out the meaning of the text
- Minimizing = Eisegesis - imposing your own interpretation on the text

Band

-Look at this list from a book by John Bevere (I'll be referencing this book throughout the series, some things I like and then some things we believe differently...) The...

- Spirit of truth
- Spirit of counsel
- Spirit of knowledge
- Spirit of might
- Spirit of understanding
- Spirit of wisdom
- Spirit of grace
- Spirit of judgment
- Spirit of fire
- Spirit of life
- Spirit of love
- Spirit of power
- Spirit of a sound mind
- Spirit of revelation
- Spirit of holiness

Close - in the moment...