Fire in the Fireplace Facilitator Notes



The American Anglican Council's "Anglican Traditions" videos are free for anyone to use. These facilitator notes are meant to act as an aid to getting the most out of the "Fire in the Fireplace" videos and are designed for small group use. The series is divided in to a prologue and 17 lessons with each having its own study guide and facilitator notes. Many thanks to Dolly McLemore of Christ Church Montgomery, AL, whose work forms the basis for these study guides. Find other videos at www.AnglicanTraditions.com.

These facilitator notes are for the <u>Prologue to the Fire in the Fireplace series</u>.

- Peter was an inarticulate fisherman. After the Holy Spirit fell on him, he spoke with power, authority and recall of the Old Testament that he had never had before.
 - As a result, 3,000 people were added to the church (Acts 2). Those 3,000 which went on to devote themselves to prayer, fellowship, the apostle's teaching and meeting each other's needs. "And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."
- The big question we are all asking: is this still possible today? Or, must we do ministry in our own strength?"
- Cessationists say these things were necessary for the launch of the church, but Paul says in I
 Cor. 13:8: "Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues,
 they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we
 prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end.
 - o But what is perfect if not the closing of the canon of scripture as cessationists claim?
 - And what if we need the power of the Holy Spirit just as much today as we did in those New Testament launch times?
- False teachers justify their false teaching by saying, "the Holy Spirit is constantly giving us new truths and these new truths evolve." And yet the Holy Spirit is the giver of all truth and doesn't contradict Himself.
- The Rt. Rev. Michael Nazir Ali: "We can't domesticate the Holy Spirit but the Holy Spirit is meant for and needed even more in the church today...He leads God's people as they journey along on this pilgrimage. It is the church also that should be led by God's Spirit. This leading is not wild or unpredictable. Not a leading about which we know nothing. The work of the Holy Spirit is firmly grounded in the person and work of Christ Himself. The Holy Spirit bears witness to Jesus."
- The church needs the Holy Spirit in the same way the fire needs the fireplace. A fireplace is a beautiful structure but dead without the fire. Without the fireplace, the fire may hurt people, rage out of control, and ultimately die out because it has nothing to help throw that warmth of the fire outwards.