

Suggested Resources

Below is a list of resources that will help you dig deeper into the topic preached about this morning:

- Jack Deere - *Surprised by the Power of the Spirit* - this week's "Pastor's Pick"
- John Wimber- *Power Healing*
- John White - *When the Spirit Comes With Power: Signs & Wonders Among God's People*
- Randy Clark - *The Essential Guide to the Power of the Holy Spirit*

Suggested Bibles

We teach from the Bible on Sundays and encourage you to read the Bible throughout the week. Here are a few recommended versions of it:

- **Quest Study Bible (NIV translation)**
Read and understand the Bible like never before! This unique Bible addresses the common, uncommon, and perplexing questions people ask about Scripture, right as you read it! Passages that puzzle will snap into clarity.
- **Teen Study Bible**
This bestselling Bible keeps up with you! As an on-the-go teen, you're moving fast. God is moving faster! The NIV Teen Study Bible will help you keep in step with all He has done, is doing, and will do in the world -- and in your life.
- **Kids Quest Study Bible (NIV translation)**
All 66 books of the Bible translated into a reader-friendly version for kids ages 6-9. Plus it has over 500 questions children ask about the Bible, about their world, and about God. It speaks their language and answers their questions in a way they can understand.

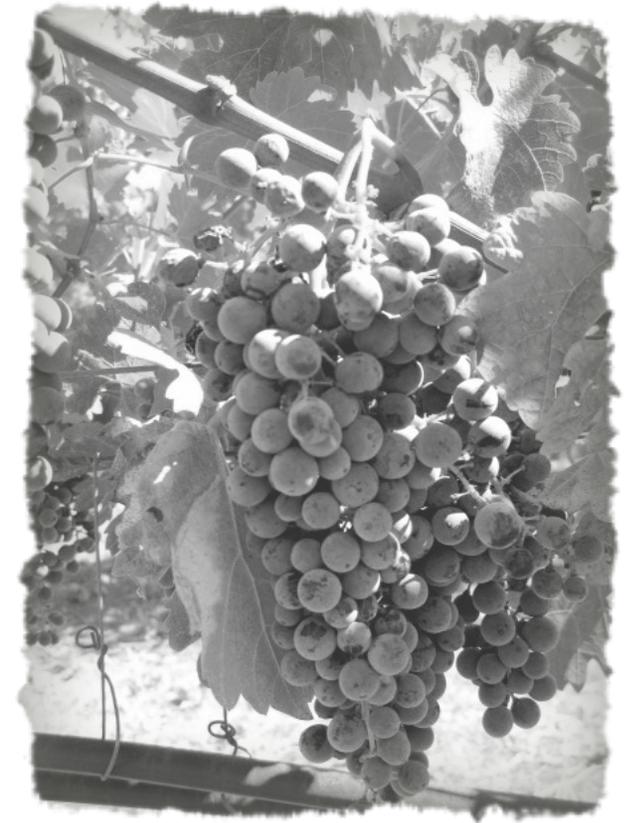
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It's Black-and-White For a Reason... One of our values is to be inwardly frugal so we can be outwardly generous. That's why this program is black-and-white and printed on plain paper. Printing them this way cuts our costs way down. So this program may not be fancy, but it gets the job done. This is one of the things we do that enables us to give away 22% of our budget to the poor and needy in our community and beyond.

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CHURCH



The Problem of the Unreal Bible

Week 2 of Series: When a Supernatural God
Does Supernatural Things

July 24, 2016

We want people to encounter God on Sundays and not just "go to church." That is why today's 75-minute service will include an in-depth Bible teaching, communion, worship (feel free to stand or sit as we sing), and an opportunity to receive 1-on-1 prayer.

The Problem of the Unreal Bible

Dan Kopp (lead pastor - The Eastside Vineyard Church)

Notes:

Digging Deeper Questions

In our fast-paced culture, it's easy to be impacted by the sermon you hear at church on Sunday... only to forget about it by Monday. To make this message "stick" we created these Digging Deeper Questions so you can process and apply what you heard at church. Take some time this week to go through these questions by yourself, in your small group, with a friend, your family, or your roommate.

1. Icebreaker: This past week, Dan, Kellie, the kids, and their extended family were "up north" in Traverse City. What is your favorite place to go on vacation in Michigan?
2. Is there anything you heard in this week's sermon or experienced in this week's service that was an "a ha" moment, something significant for you?
3. In *Surprised by the Power of the Spirit* Jack Deere writes, "Immediately I picked up a good habit that has also become a life-long habit — I began to read the Bible on a regular basis. I can't remember how it happened, but I also acquired another habit, a bad one. It was this: When I read the stories of the people in the Bible, I did not expect their experiences to be like mine. [I believed] they were special people living in special times. Their experience of God was unique; mine wasn't. Mine was more *normal*, whatever that meant. So I read and memorized the Bible, never expecting much of what I read to ever be reproduced in my life." To what degree have you developed the same "good habit" that Jack Deere talked about? What about the "bad habit" he mentioned?
4. Read James 5:16-18. When you read a biblical story like this one which is steeped in the supernatural, do you believe history could repeat itself? That the prayers of modern-day believers (like you!) could change weather patterns? Why or why not?
5. Read James 5:16. Do you tend to think of Elijah as "a human being just like us" or do you tend to think of him as something more like a spiritual superhero?
6. Read Acts 10:34. In the King James Version of the Bible, this verse says God is no respecter of persons. In other words, what God did in the life of a biblical character like the Apostle Paul or the prophet Elijah, He could do through you. In *Hearing God* Dallas Willard writes, "It is worth reminding ourselves to read the biblical accounts as if what is described is happening to us. We must make the conscious effort to think that such things might happen to us and imagine what it would be like if they were to happen . . . We must pray for the faith and for the experiences that would enable us to believe that such things could happen to us." What are your thoughts on that Bible verse and subsequent quotation?
7. In *Surprised by the Power of the Spirit* Jack Deere writes, "Most of my life I've read the Bible more like a Pharisee than a New Testament Christian. Most of my life I've made the mistake of believing God for too little. For the rest of my life, if I have to make a mistake, it's going to be believing God for too much." How would your spiritual journey be different if you began believing God in this same manner? How would you pray differently?

Key Passage:

When a believing person prays, great things happen. Elijah was a human being just like us. He prayed that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years! Then Elijah prayed again, and the rain came down from the sky, and the land produced crops again.

- James 5:16-18 (NCV)