

The Heart of the Story

WEEK OF APRIL 6, 2015

God Sends His Holy Spirit

I love that the 1st of our new series “The Heart of the Story” is this moment in the scriptures...the moment that the power of the Holy Spirit was given to His believers. This was the fulfillment of some of the last letters in red. Jesus’s last words before ascending into heaven were a promise of this gift. *“And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes & fills you with power from heaven.”* Luke 24:48

Jesus knew that His followers would need the power of the Holy Spirit to begin their journey as apostles. This power was needed to ignite the flame & spread the Good News! Newly empowered by the Holy Spirit, Peter (wishy-washy Peter) preached the Gospel & in that first message, 3000 were baptized and empowered. Now that’s one POWERFUL message!

Before that moment His followers...while believers were powerless. The definition of powerless? Helpless! Ineffective! Defenseless! Lacking

authority to act! These words can be used to describe you and I today without the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit. The good news is that same power that ignited the disciples is readily available to you and I, and all throughout scripture we can be encouraged by how it changes everything in our lives. God’s Word beautifully describes all that the Spirit does for & in us!

The spirit...

- ⇒ Frees us from the powers of sin that leads to death (Romans 8:2)
- ⇒ Gives us words to pray when we can’t find them (Romans 8:26-27)
- ⇒ Gives the ability to know God better & understand His ways (1Cor. 2:12; John 16:12-15)
- ⇒ Produces fruit in our lives that will bless others & us (Galatians 2:12)
- ⇒ Enables us to be Christ’s witness (Acts 1:8)
- ⇒ Guides & directs us (Galatians 5:16)
- ⇒ Unites us as one (Eph. 4:3)

- ⇒ Gives us peace of mind & heart (John 14:27)
- ⇒ Guarantees us eternal life (2Cor. 5:1-5)

While the Holy Spirit strengthens and encourages us, we must never lose sight of the reason we have been chosen as its vessel. We find it in those final “letters in red” *“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere— in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”* Acts 1:8 His spirit dwells in us for all to see so that they too might know and accept Jesus Christ as their Lord & Savior!

“May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”

2 Cor. 13:14

Inside Story Headline



Caption describing picture or graphic.

This story can fit 150-200 words.

One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press releases, market studies, and reports.

While your main goal of distributing a newsletter might be to sell your product or service, the key to a successful newsletter is making it useful to your readers.

A great way to add useful content to your newsletter is to develop and write your own articles, or include a calendar of upcoming events or a special offer that promotes a new product.

You can also research articles or find "filler" articles by accessing the World Wide Web. You can write about a variety of topics but try to keep your articles short.

Much of the content you put in your newsletter can also be

used for your Web site. Microsoft Publisher offers a simple way to convert your newsletter to a Web publication. So, when you're finished writing your newsletter, convert it to a Web site and post it.

"To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here."

Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 100-150 words.

The subject matter that appears in newsletters is virtually endless. You can include stories that focus on current technologies or innovations in your field.

You may also want to note business or economic trends, or make predictions for your customers or clients.

If the newsletter is distributed internally, you might comment upon new procedures or improvements to the business. Sales figures or earnings will show how your business is growing.

Some newsletters include a column that is updated every issue, for instance, an advice column, a book review, a letter from the president, or an edi-

torial. You can also profile new employees or top customers or vendors.

Inside Story Headline



Caption describing picture or graphic.

This story can fit 75-125 words.

Selecting pictures or graphics is an important part of adding content to your newsletter.

Think about your article and ask your-

self if the picture supports or enhances the message you're trying to convey. Avoid selecting images that appear to be out of context.

Microsoft Publisher includes thousands of clip art images from which you can choose and import into your newsletter. There are also several

tools you can use to draw shapes and symbols.

Once you have chosen an image, place it close to the article. Be sure to place the caption of the image near the image.

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GUMC CEC

Primary Business Address

Your Address Line 2

Your Address Line 3

Your Address Line 4

Phone: 555-555-5555

Fax: 555-555-5555

E-mail: someone@example.com

Your business tag line here.

This would be a good place to insert a short paragraph about your organization. It might include the purpose of the organization, its mission, founding date, and a brief history. You could also include a brief list of the types of products, services, or programs your organization offers, the geographic area covered (for example, western U.S. or European markets), and a profile of the types of customers or members served.

It would also be useful to include a contact name for readers who want more information about the organization.



Back Page Story Headline

This story can fit 175-225 words.

If your newsletter is folded and mailed, this story will appear on the back. So, it's a good idea to make it easy to read at a glance.

A question and answer session is a good way to quickly capture the attention of readers. You can either compile questions that you've received since the last edition or you can summarize some generic questions that are frequently asked about your organization.

A listing of names and titles of managers in your organization is a good way to give your newsletter a personal touch. If your organization is small, you may want to list the names of all employees.

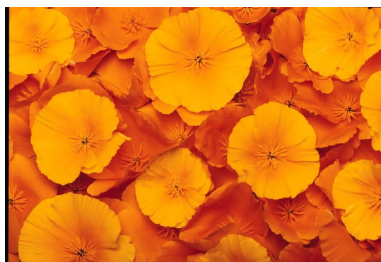
If you have any prices of standard products or services, you can include

a listing of those here. You may want to refer your readers to any other forms of communication that you've created for your organization.

You can also use this space to remind readers to mark their calendars for a regular event, such as a breakfast meeting for vendors every third Tuesday of the month, or a biannual

charity auction.

If space is available, this is a good place to insert a clip art image or some other graphic.



Caption describing picture or graphic.