

## Thursday, February 12

The second way in which the holy Spirit enables us is our ability to love unconditionally. Unconditional love is the basis for God's steadfast love mentioned so often in our scriptures. This love is closely connected with our ability to forgive. It is a love that conquers any offending action from another person. It is the love that brings healing and joy back to our relationships. It is a love that reflects God's unconditional love for all humanity.

When we turn from our God toward sin that distances us from God and others, we distance ourselves from the redeeming action of Jesus the Christ. Our sin are the nails that hold Jesus to the cross. When we ask for forgiveness and receive a fresh indwelling of God's unconditional love, then we can truly celebrate and participate in Jesus' resurrection! As we are released from our sin, we are enabled to release others with a love that is divine, complete and restorative. Meditate on the connection between forgiveness and unconditional love. Write your thoughts here.

## Friday, February 13

Read Matthew 6:24-33. Focus on that last verse, "But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." When we focus on building God's Kingdom on earth (the church), then we are creating a community that provides fertile soil in which our faith grows and our actions are inspired through the guidance of the Holy Spirit. How can you contribute to the building of the church in our world today? What are your hopes and dreams for the world-wide church? What are your hopes and dreams for our Central UMC? When we build the church, we are enabled to forgive and love and create peace within us, in the community and in our world! Write your reflections here giving thanks to our loving God!

## Message Notes February 8, 2026

### *Attitude is Your Paint Brush* *The Attitude of Humility\**

- I. As I've already mentioned, the inspiration for this series of messages is a book by the late Rev. Dr. James W. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. The name of the book is *Your attitude is Your Paint Brush – It Colors Every \_\_\_\_\_.*
  - B. The chapter on the Attitude of Humility with a cute story of a distinguished \_\_\_\_\_ who taught at the University of \_\_\_\_\_.
    1. Often, his \_\_\_\_\_ granddaughter would visit him at his office.
    2. One day, the professor was carrying his granddaughter around on his \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. A friend said to the granddaughter, "My goodness! Look at you! Look how much you've \_\_\_\_\_ since I saw you last week!"
    4. The little girl replied, "Not \_\_\_\_\_ of this is \_\_\_\_."
  - C. We all have ridden on the \_\_\_\_\_ of those who have gone before us.
- II. The Book of Acts tells us that when the day of \_\_\_\_\_ had come, the followers of Jesus "were all \_\_\_\_\_ in one place"
  - A. All of them were filled with the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. The apostles began to stand on the shoulders of the \_\_\_\_\_!
    1. On that first Pentecost, \_\_\_\_\_ dug deep and found the courage to \_\_\_\_\_.
    2. Peter would tell us, "That wasn't just \_\_\_\_\_. That wasn't just \_\_\_\_!"

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\* Acts 2:1-21 and Matthew 6:24-33

III. Humility from a Biblical perspective is knowing ourselves in relationship with God.

A. Dr. Moore wrote, “Whenever we \_\_\_\_\_ in the Spirit of Jesus Christ, not all of that is \_\_\_\_\_.”

B. Let’s explore three things that the Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ us to do.

1. The Holy Spirit enables us to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The Holy Spirit enables us to \_\_\_\_\_ unconditionally.
3. The Holy Spirit enables us to build the \_\_\_\_\_.

C. Friends, we should wear medals of humility pointing to the fact that we stand on the shoulders of the \_\_\_\_\_. Not all of this is \_\_\_\_\_!

## ***Daily Devotional Guide***

The following is a daily devotional and study guide meant to enhance your understanding of the message and grow as a Christian.

It is offered for your personal reflection or to share with others.

### **Monday, February 9**

The Message began with the illustration of a granddaughter riding on the shoulders of her grandfather. A friend commented on how much she grown since the last time he saw the little girl. The girl responded, “Not all of this is me!” We have all ridden on the shoulders of those who have gone before us, who have supported us in our endeavors and accomplishments. Think about these people in your life. Who are they? Family? Friends? Your spouse or partner? Perhaps your list is very long. Take some time to think about the influence of these people in your life. List them below and think about what you’ve been able to accomplish because of them. Pray a prayer of thanksgiving for their lives and for the way they have blessed your life. Write your reflections here.

### **Tuesday, February 10**

Read Acts 2:1-21. If you are able, read this passage out loud; don’t worry about saying all the words correctly. Just recognize that there were many people in Jerusalem from many different areas. Meditate on what the experience of receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit must have been like: the sound, the sight of tongues of fire lighting upon Christ’s followers, the feel of the excited crowd around the disciples. What emotions do you believe the people on that first Pentecost felt?

We all stand upon the “shoulders” of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is God’s gift to us as Jesus left this world; it is the continual presence of God on earth since that first Pentecost. We live in the Age of the Holy Spirit! Have you ever felt the presence and support of the Holy Spirit? Have you ever thought about your accomplishments and how the Holy Spirit has enabled you? Meditate on these questions and write your thoughts here.

### **Wednesday, February 11**

During the message, three ways the Holy Spirit enables us were mentioned. The first way the Holy Spirit enables us is our ability to forgive. The Apostle Paul wrote, “Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.” Our ability to forgive is the result of God’s forgiveness of us. It has been said that to forgive means to no longer hold another responsible for the pain of any misdeed we have suffered as a result of another’s actions. It means to release them for any responsibility for your continued pain. How does your forgiveness of another person reflect God’s forgiveness of you? Write your reflections here.