

In the book called “River Dwellers,” it was enlightening to learn about the “evidences of the baptism of the Spirit.” (Reimer 28). It was stated that “The baptism of the Spirit is a supernatural encounter with the living God that produces supernatural results.” (Reimer 28). The three primary evidences were one’s bold witness, power received from God, and prophecy. (Reimer 28- 38). Regarding the concept of bold witness, a believer in Christ needs to be patient and be willing to use a golden opportunity to tell another individual about the Christian faith. (Reimer 28-31). As Dr. Rob Reimer states in his book, “The filling of the Spirit makes us bold witnesses.” (Reimer 30). The Christian believer needs to be bold about bringing the Christian faith up in order to plant the seed of faith into the recipient’s heart. The second is how the Lord can empower us with his supernatural love which can make us cry tears of happiness as well as give powerful healing both spiritually and physically as well to the recipient. (Reimer 31-36). As the author contends, “The power of God is also manifest when Spirit-filled people access the power of God for healing. When the present fullness of the risen Christ is active, healing often occurs.” (Reimer 33). The third mark of the baptism of the Holy Spirit is prophecy in which the Lord gives us insight about the future or about another person. (Reimer 36-38).

These three marks of bold witness, power, and prophecy has impacted my praxis for soul care as well as my theology of the Christian faith. This is because while I knew that the Lord can compel his believers to share the gospel and can give prophetic insight to a believer, the categorization of the three main ways in which the Holy Spirit can use a believer made it clearer in my mind. For an example I did not know that “Another way power is demonstrated is by the great outpouring of supernatural love.” (Reimer 34). I also was not aware that I had to take time to listen to the Spirit before praying for someone’s injuries instead of beginning prayer immediately. Additionally, it was surprising to discover that the Lord can use new believers and

give them prophetic insight and his power as I thought it was only the experienced believers who had spent decades cultivating a relationship with Christ who received such things. In my personal life, I now know these concepts and will implement these new pieces of knowledge into practice and incorporate them into my beliefs in terms of evangelization, healing, and prophecy. Lastly, I will no longer underestimate the potential spirituality of new believers. This will greatly change the way I will do ministry currently as a children's pastor and as a future youth pastor in terms of spiritually guiding, encouraging, and loving my students, church members, and nonbelievers at whichever church I go to.

In pertinence to the second primary theme of the book which stood out to me which was prophecy, it was intriguing to refresh my knowledge on all the ways the Lord can use the gift of prophecy to communicate with his believers. Some examples of how He communicates to his believers are through the whispering of the Spirit, prophetic words, an audible voice, visions or dreams, and through our body and emotions. (Reimer 55- 67). It was interesting to learn about the concept of humbly testing whether the Heavenly Father had been speaking to us or not. (Reimer 69). In the book, it contends the point that "not all dreams and visions are from God, but some are. We need to discern. Again, it is vitally important that we move with humility and we test everything with Scripture." (Reimer 60). The ways in which we humbly test if God is communicating with us is through the correct interpretation or meditation of the biblical scriptures or through other fellow believers when they pray for us. (Reimer 69). Another idea I had attained from River Dwellers which I had learned was that risk is an essential component to becoming more attuned to the whispering of the Holy Spirit. (Reimer 57).

This interconnects with the third primary theme of the book I had gained which was the different paces of the River or the spiritual journey of the believer. A river does not always flow

