

# Essential: God's Anointing

Study Guide for Small Group Discussion and Personal Application  
Lynn Haven UMC – August 9, 2020 – Pastor Craig Carter

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As our regathering and rebuilding process as a church continues over the summer, we are discussing what is essential to our existence as a congregation. This week we consider how **God's anointing** is essential for life.

## Discussion Starters:

⇒ How would you explain or define the verb “to anoint”? Can you use it in a sentence? From a Biblical perspective, what sort of things or people might be anointed, and why?

The word, *anoint*, lit. means “to rub with or to apply oil or ointment to a person or thing.” In the ancient world, anointing had many applications to include caring for wounds, cosmetic care of the body, and also the setting apart of certain objects for religious purposes. People were also anointed to mark their inauguration to a particular office (e.g. kings, priests). Throughout Scripture, anointing became closely associated with the presence of the Holy Spirit.

*The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners. (Isaiah 61:1 NIV)*

*And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. (Acts 10:38 NLT)*

Some principles regarding God's anointing of believers:

### 1) God's anointing is essential because it provides us with a POSITION.

*“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, and that the oppressed will be set free.” (Luke 4:18 NLT)*

*But you have an anointing from the Holy One... (1 John 2:20a NIV)*

*Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:7 NIV)*

⇒ All believers are anointed with the Holy Spirit to serve the community in a particular way. Do you know what your anointing or spiritual gift is? If not, would you like to find out?

## **2) God's anointing is essential because it provides us with POWER.**

*And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. (Acts 10:38a NIV)*

*"The anointing is the power of the Holy Spirit. At the end of the day there is no better definition...The person who is filled with the Holy Spirit is able to do extraordinary things, but to them it seems quite natural. It is easy, when it is working." (R.T. Kendall in The Anointing)*

⇒ Do you ever long for power in your life and place of ministry? The key is operating in the power that comes through God's anointing.

## **3) God's anointing is essential because it provides us with PRESENCE.**

*And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, **for God was with him.** (Acts 10:38 NLT)*

*Just as you can hear the wind but can't tell where it comes from or where it will go next, so it is with the Spirit. (John 3:8a TLB)*

⇒ With God's presence comes power. If we want His anointing, we must seek Him – here and now, today. Are you truly seeking more of God today?

### **Application Question**

⇒ In what specific way do you want to experience God's anointing in your life? (To carry out a particular ministry, to see an extraordinary demonstration of God's power, to know that Christ is present with you?) Once identified, pray and ask God to anoint you with the Holy Spirit and with power.