

HOLY SPIRIT'S NAMES & DESCRIPTIONS

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CtO Rev. Dr. JERRY SCHMOYER

jerry@schmoyer.net

jerry@ChristianTrainingOrganization.org

ChristianTrainingOrganization.org

(India Outreach, Spiritual Warfare, Family Ministries, Counseling, World View)

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-WHO HE IS & WHAT HE DOES

INTRODUCTION

In many Christian circles the Holy Spirit is either neglected, forgotten, or misunderstood. The One given to unite the body of Christ is the center of controversy. This is a nettle which ought to be firmly grasped. So often Christian work is so rigidly programmed that it seems we need no longer depend on Him--yet Jesus said, "Without Me you can do nothing." ...

The late Dr. A. W. Tozer, author and pastor, said, "If the Holy Spirit was withdrawn from the church today, 95 percent of what we do would go on and no one would know the difference. If the Holy spirit had been withdrawn from the New Testament church, 95 percent of what they did would stop, and everybody would know the difference."

My daughter's station wagon coughed and choked all the way to the Christian bookstore in the mall. While we stood at the bookstore counter, Connie moaned, "I'm not sure we can make it home in the station wagon. If only Dave had driven the station wagon and left the Dodge Spirit for us!" At that moment she glanced outside the store and happened to see her husband, Dave, rush by on his way to the restaurant next door.

"Dave! Dave!" she called. "Help! We need the Spirit." The clerk came to the counter at that moment. Thinking she had just overheard a devout and desperate prayer, her eyes opened wide--until Connie and Dave exchanged car keys.

Ministries that genuinely touch the world all can be traced to movement of the Holy Spirit. This is a truth that seems lost to today's church.

Called 'Holy GHOST' – like Halloween Spook, or nice 'Casper'

Holy Spirit 'unseen' behind-scenes worker, often neglected

Mentioned 90x in OT, 263 in NT

Jesus mentioned 8x as often as Holy Spirit – Holy Spirit focus on Jesus

Holy Spirit Author of Word, not His purpose to focus on Himself

John 16:13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

DAILY DEVOTIONS

WEEK 1

DAY 1

2 Cor 3:17-18 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

A boy, flying a kite, was so successful that the kite went out of sight. He stood on the grass with a string in his hand that bent upwards into the sky and out of sight. Someone asked him how he knew the kite was there, and he let them put their hand on the string; they could feel the pull of the unseen kite.

The world does not recognize the existence of God, but those who know Him can feel the drawing of the invisible power that we recognize in every area of life. That is the Holy Spirit tugging on our heart. When others 'touch' our lives they will be forced to recognize that we possess something which they don't have.

PRAY: Sit silently for a few moments, meditating, and feel the 'tug' of the Holy Spirit in your heart, connecting you to God's presence, love and warmth. Thank Him. Try to be conscience all day of that 'tug' in your heart. If you can't sense it, pause a focus on God for a moment. Then you'll feel Him again.

DAY 2

Rom 15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Describing the Holy Spirit is like drawing a picture of the soul, or weighing a thought, or explaining an emotion. He can't be accurately described by words. They fall far short.

We can't look at the sun, for we aren't equipped for it. But we can experience the benefits of the sun's rays. The same is true of the Spirit. We can't see Him, but we can experience His blessings in our lives.

PRAY: Think of each and every blessing you have because God lives in you by His Spirit. Thank Him for each one. Take your time and really think, don't rush through this.

DAY 3

Matt 28:18-20 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Kenneth Grahame's *The Wind in the Willows* illustrates how we are to feel about God's Spirit indwelling us. Portraying two animals in the commanding presence of "the Piper," he imagines the following conversation: " 'Rat!' the Mole found breath to whisper, shaking, 'Are you afraid?' 'Afraid! Of him? Oh, never, never! And yet – and yet – O Mole, I am afraid!' And, crouching to the earth, they bowed their heads." That portrayal of a rat and mole, of course, is fiction. But in real life, we too are inclined to say when we think of God, "Afraid! Of Him? Oh, never, never! And yet – and yet – I am afraid!"

It is God's Spirit in us that assures us that, while we are to respect Him, we have no reason to live in terror of Him. Which extreme are you most guilty of – fearing God so that you don't feel loved by Him or not respecting

His power and glory enough to cause you to worship Him?

PRAY: Whichever it is, ask God to work in your heart by His Spirit so you have the right balance in your heart.

DAY 4

John 7:38 He that believes on me..., out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.

In the Bible the Holy Spirit is symbolically portrayed as a dove, as anointing oil, and as a fire. He is also compared to a stream that is always in motion. Jesus spoke of Him in this way, declaring that out of the believer's heart would "flow rivers of living water."

The reason many of us are weak and stagnant as Christians is that while we have all of the Holy Spirit, we have not let Him have all of us! We have refused to become clear channels for His mighty power. Sin and selfishness have dammed up the stream of blessing that normally should overflow to others.

Some hill people in India called the Kurkue have a strange religion which demands that they should be filled with demons! When this supreme desire has been satisfied, they believe their lives will be immune to outward attacks from the devil. While they recognize that a "good spirit" has created the world and brought them into existence, they disregard him because they feel he is too benevolent to harm them. A missionary who visited this tribe of approximately 100,000 declared, "If the same number of God's people had as their ultimate aim in life the desire to be filled with the Holy Spirit, I believe such a blessed surrender would cause a tremendous awakening. The evangelistic results would reach to all corners of the globe."

In this dry, thirsty world we must make sure our lives bring heavenly refreshment to others. Our filling will lead to a glorious overflowing. Are a river that flows continually or a tap that only drips occasionally?

PRAY: How important is it to you to be filled with the Holy Spirit? How much priority do you put on that? Ask Him to remove whatever keeps Him from flowing through you like a clear river.

DAY 5

Rom 15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Professor Huxley tells that in the soil of England there lie buried tropical seeds in bewildering variety. They have been brought by birds, by winds, by many agencies. There they lie deeply buried, these tropical potencies, waiting for what? For a tropical atmosphere. Huxley says that if for 12 months there would be in England tropical heat they would be amazed by the coming out of strange seeds, and the land would bloom with tropical luxuriance.

Powers we have never conceived lie buried in your life and in mine, powers put there by God and waiting for their proper atmosphere! Our lives are often too chill, and so the seeds are non-germinant. But if the heat of heaven could come, I think those powers would come out of our hearts in a splash of beauty and glory. We would be amazed to see what God can do through a heart warmed by His Spirit.

PRAY: Ask God to warm your heart to His love and will today so that He can produce through you whatever beautiful thing He wants to produce. Thanks Him for doing that.

1. HE IS GOD, EQUAL TO THE FATHER & SON

OUR PURPOSE IN THIS SERIES

- understand the Holy Spirit: Who He Is, What He Does
- apply that to our lives so can live in God's power

TRINITY HARD TO UNDERSTAND

GOD HIMSELF IMPOSSIBLE FOR HUMAN MIND TO GRASP

God is not discoverable or demonstrable by purely scientific means, unfortunately for the scientific minded. But that really proves nothing. It simply means that the wrong instruments are being used for the job

Explain the Trinity? We can't even begin. We can only accept it--a mystery, disclosed in Scripture. It should be no surprise that the triune Being of God baffles our finite minds. We should be surprised, rather, if we could understand the nature of our Creator. He would be a two-bit deity, not the fathomless Source of all reality.

God cannot be grasped by the mind. If he could be grasped, he would not be God

TRINITY: Equal in nature
 Separate in Person
 Submissive in Duties

I. HOLY SPIRIT EQUAL TO GOD THE FATHER & GOD THE SON

Heb 9:14 How much more, then, will the blood of Christ (Son), who through the eternal Spirit (Holy Spirit) offered himself unblemished to God (Father), cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

LUKE 15 'LOST' PARABLES

- LOST SON – work of God the Father
- LOST SHEEP – work of God the Son
- LOST COIN – work of God the Spirit

BAPTISMAL FORMULA

Matt 28:18-20 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Name = singular, not names

APOSTOLIC BENEDICTION

2 Cor 13:14 May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

***May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, medium of all blessing
and the love of God, source of all blessing
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*** Dispenser of all blessing

HEAVENLY WITNESS

1 John 5:6-10 This is the one who came by water and blood-Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. 7 For there are three that testify: 8 the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement. 9 We accept man's testimony, but God's testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son.

UNITED ACCESS

Eph 2:13, 18 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. ... 18 For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

John 16:12-15 "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. 13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. 14 He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. 15 All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you."

Spirit glorifies the Son who glorifies the Father

II. HOLY SPIRIT IS CALLED GOD

GOD

Acts 5:3-4 Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land? 4 Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied to men but to God."

Holy Spirit = God, must be given same reverence as Father and Son

When turn from Holy Spirit's leading open self to Satan's influence

LORD

2 Cor 3:17-18 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

EXAMPLE OF Holy Spirit ACTING AS MASTER, LORD

Acts 13:2-4 *While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." 3 So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off. 4 The two of them, sent on their way by the Holy Spirit, went down to Seleucia and sailed from there to Cyprus.*

III. HOLY SPIRIT HAS ALL THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

ETERNAL SPIRIT

Heb 9:14 *How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!*

TRINITY all mentioned in this verse

OMNIPRESENT SPIRIT

OMNI = all, every

Can't get away from Holy Spirit – everywhere in every one

Ps 139:7-13 *Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? 8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. 9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, 10 even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast. 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," 12 even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you. 13 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.*

Everywhere at once, but not seen – body

OMNISCIENT SPIRIT

1 Cor 2:10-11 *The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. 11 For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.*

Knows all about God & His ways,

Knows what will happen as well as what has happened

OMNIPOTENT SPIRIT

Rom 15:13 *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

All power to carry out what He knows is best for all

Luke 1:35 The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

Holy Spirit = power of the Most High

Most High = El Elyon

"overshadow" = direct, personal presence of God

same Greek verb used of Transfiguration when cloud enveloped Jesus, Mo, Elij
from this 'cloud' voice of God came: "This is My beloved Son, listen to Him."

Holy Spirit the 'power' that impregnated Mary similar to way Holy Spirit impregnated
waters Gen 1:2

(creation of life from non-life)

2 miracles man denies today: creation, virgin birth (both done by Holy Spirit)

in each of these Holy Spirit the agent of God, not the center of attention/glory

CONCLUSION

The burden that I want to bring to you this morning is this: God is an important person, and he does not like being taken for granted. Suppose you ask a man, a president of a company, "Who, under God, is the most important person in your life?" He says, "I guess it would be my vice-president for marketing." You say, "What about your wife?" He says, "Oh, of course, I just assumed that. I just take that for granted. It goes without saying." A few people would assume that his abounding love and respect for his wife caused him to forget her. Most of us probably would assume that the reason she didn't come to mind is because she's not uppermost in his affections. The wife wouldn't say, "I am so honored that I'm like the air he breathes. He never gives me a thought." There is in most people's minds no direct correlation between taking something for granted and showing its value as a treasure. We can be certain the wife would say, "If I don't come to your mind when you're asked about your life's priorities, then it's because I'm not important to you. And if you think that I am honored by being taken for granted, you're wrong!" It's possible to take important things like oxygen for granted. If you're taken for granted, you might feel indispensable. But not treasured or honored.

God is an important person; he does not like being taken for granted .

DAILY DEVOTIONS

WEEK 2

DAY 1

God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts. Gal 4:6

In the country in winter, when one awoke he could look at cabins and cottages with a load of snow on their roofs. But as the day wore on, large fragments would begin to tumble from the eaves of one and then another until the whole heap slid down and the roof was clear and dry as in summer. But here and there would be a home with it's white mantle unbroken. What made the difference? The difference was found within. The ones with snow on the roof throughout the day were empty, the fireplace cold and dead. The others had life in them, and the warmth from the fire loosened the snow and melted it.

Now someone could have gotten a long stick, broken the icicles, and pushed some of the snow from the roof. But it wouldn't all be gone, and it would soon be covered again.

So it is with us. We can try to chip away at the accumulation of sin and garbage in our lives, but with little effect. Or we can let the warmth of the Holy Spirit in our heart radiate through us and melt the cold exterior. Which is the case in your life?

PRAY: Ask God to fill you with His presence to such an extent that your cold exterior is warmed with His love and joy. Picture how you and your day will be different when this happens. Ask God to bring that about in you today.

DAY 2

John 3:8 The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

The passenger asked the sailor, "Will you explain to me the phenomenon of the wind?" The seaman replied, "I don't know what you mean, Sir." The passenger persisted, "Well, how do you explain the wind which propels your great ship?" the sailor came back, "I don't know anything about the wind, but I can hoist a sail."

Just so with us. We may not be able to explain the working of the Holy Spirit, but we can experience the Spirit's power in our own life and ministry.

PRAY: Think of times in your life when you had God's power, wisdom, peace or whatever even though you didn't understand how it was you had it. Where do you see evidence of God's Spirit working in your life right now? Submit to His working and ask Him to continue to minister to and through you.

DAY 3

Isaiah 61:1 The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach 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,

The pearl diver lives at the bottom of the ocean by means of the pure air conveyed to him from above. His life is entirely dependent on the life-giving Spirit. We are down here, like the diver, to gather pearls for our Master's crown. The source of our life comes from above.

God's Spirit is the One Who is our lifeline. Without Him we'd have nothing. We couldn't survive spiritually without His life-giving connection to God.

PRAY: Thank Him for your life-line. Praise Him for providing it. Depend on it all day, every day.

DAY 4

Jude 1 Preserved in Jesus Christ.

Do you remember the preserves your grand mother used to make? She would have a big pot on the stove, boiling away, until after several testings the “preserves” were just concentrated enough and were poured into glasses or jars. There could be strawberry preserves, raspberry preserves, currant preserves, peach and plum and apple. Why were they called “preserves”? Because they were preserved against spoiling. Fruits in the raw or untreated state soon deteriorate, decay, and perish. But “preserved” fruits lasted indefinitely because they were impregnated with “sugar.” Sugar was the secret. The fruits were preserved in a sweet sugar syrup. To make good jam, advertises a certain cookbook, “A cup of sugar to a cup of fruit.” Now our text in Jude 1 says that we are “preserved in Jesus Christ.” Could anything be sweeter than that? All true Christians ought to be sweet at all times if they are preserved “in Christ.” Impregnated with Christ, filled with Him. The word “preserved” is “Toreo” in the original and means to “guard” against loss or spoiling. The Christian is watched over by the Lord and He guards and protects us.

The more we submit ourselves to Him, the more we meditate upon Him and seek His fellowship, the more we shall become saturated with his sweetness. It is an interesting thing to find that the word “reserved” in I Peter 1:4 is the same word “Toreo” in the Greek. Peter says that we have an “inheritance incorruptible ... reserved in heaven.” It is the same word translated “preserved” in Jude 1.

We are “preserved” in Christ Jesus by the Holy Spirit, and our inheritance is “reserved” in Heaven for us. What security! We are preserved – our salvation is reserved, and both words mean to “guard against loss

or spoiling.” All this should make us sweet like the One in Whom we are “preserved.”

When the sweetness of Jesus completely permeates our being, our lives will have a delightful, spiritual flavor.

PRAY: Thank God for preserving you for all eternity in Jesus by His Spirit. Live today always remembering that you will live forever in heaven with Jesus!

DAY 5

Galatians 4:6 God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts.

One of the most beautiful sounds at daybreak is the singing of the birds. What a joy to listen to their happy tunes cheering us on at the start of a new spring day. But their lovely melodies can become so commonplace that we no longer “hear” them. By early summer we grow indifferent to them, then soon ignore their singing entirely. Where once we were thrilled, before long we take this music for granted.

The same thing can be true when God speaks to us. When we first accepted Jesus’ free gift of salvation the Bible is precious and love to spend time communing with God each day. As time goes on, however, we settle into a routine that moves away from these things. You may be shocked to realize how long it has been since you really heard and enjoyed God’s presence in your soul. If you start listening again, you’ll hear those wonderful sounds of God again speaking to your spirit by His Spirit. Stop and listen. Hear them?

PRAY: Remember when you were a new Christian? Think about those days. Ask God to fill you with His Spirit so you have the same joy from His presence you had then.

2. HE REPRESENTS THE FATHER & SON

When NANSEN started on his Artic expedition many years ago he took with him a carrier pigeon, strong and fast. After 2 years in the desolation of the Artic regions, he one day wrote a tiny little message, tied it under the pigeon's wing, and let it loose, to travel 2,000 miles to Norway over ice, snow and death. But he took the trembling little bird and flung her up from the ship, up into the icy cold. Three circles she made, and then, straight as an arrow, she shot south: 1,000 miles over ice, 1,000 miles over the frozen wastes of ocean, and at last dropped into the lap of the explorer's wife. She knew, by the arrival of the bird, that it was all right in the dark night of the north.

So it is with the Holy Spirit who has come to let the disciples, and us today, know that God is ruling in heaven with Jesus as His right hand.

The Holy Spirit comes representing God the Father and God the Son

MY SPIRIT

Gen 6:3 Then the LORD said, "My Spirit will not contend with man forever, for he is mortal; his days will be a hundred and twenty years."

God's Spirit = God Himself

MY = shows relationship

Reflects His love, mercy, grace, wooing them to a relationship to Him

Not God's will any should perish, Spirit pulled them to Him

When Spirit stopped wooing, striving – judgment came (flood, tribulation)

PROPHECY OF MESSIAH

Isa 42:1-4

"Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him and he will bring justice to the nations. 2 He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets. 3 A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice; 4 he will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his law the islands will put their hope."

FULFILLED BY JESUS

Matt 12:18-21

18 "Here is my servant whom I have chosen, the one I love, in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him,

Isa 63:10-11 Yet they rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit. So he turned and became their enemy and he himself fought against them. 11 Then his people recalled the days of old, the days of Moses and his people-- where is he who brought them through the sea, with the shepherd of his flock? Where is he who set his Holy Spirit among them,

being grieved proves His personality, too

THE SPIRIT OF GOD (Elohim)

Gen 1:1-2 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

Moving, brooding over waters like mother hen

Brought life out of death

Holy Spirit brings life from death in us (salvation)

Holy Spirit gave all life so that light and life, next, could happen

Job 26:13 By his breath (lit: ruach – spirit/breath) **the skies became fair; his hand pierced the gliding serpent.**

Holy Spirit operative power behind creation

Job 33:4 The Spirit (ruach, same as 26:13) **of God has made me; the breath** (different word than ruach, means wind/breath) **of the Almighty gives me life.**

God the Father and God the Spirit are One

All that God is, the Spirit is – character & attributes

Just like no distinction between man and spirit of man (so with God & Spirit)

Song: *Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me`*

Gen 41:37-38 The plan seemed good to Pharaoh and to all his officials. 38 So Pharaoh asked them, "Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of God?"

Pharaoh recognized something different in Joseph (others couldn't tell dreams, etc.)

Others should see something different in us – not us but God / Holy Spirit

Matt 3:16-17 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. 17 And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.

Baptism identified Him with God and Holy Spirit (Trinity)

Laid aside own non-communicable attributes (omni-etc) so functioned by power of Holy Spirit

Same as us today!

Phil 2:5-9 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death- even death on a cross! 9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,

THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD (YHWH)

Isa 11:1-3 A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

**2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him--
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of power,
the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD--
3 and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.**

In OT 23x Used most often with Judges God raised up to lead people
YHWH = Jehovah, Yahweh

THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD (YHWH) GOD (Elohim)

**Isaiah 61:1 The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to preach 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,**

The Spirit (Holy Spirit) of the Sovereign LORD (God the Father) is on me,(God the Son,
Messiah – quoted by Jesus in Nazareth so tried to stone Him)
-Jesus fulfilled His ministry in the power of the Holy Spirit, not own strength
KENOSIS – voluntary non-use of divine attributes

FULFILLMENT IN NAZARETH

Luke 4:16-19 16 He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. And he stood up to read. 17 The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: 18 "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. ...

HOLY SPIRIT PROCEEDS FROM FATHER & SON

John 15:26 "When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me.

goes out from = Gk ekporeuomai, 'proceeds, in the process, continually proceeding
Holy Spirit eternally, continually coming from God the Father & God the son
continually proceeding in order to minister to specific needs in our lives

God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts. Gal 4:6
My HEART is the Holy Spirit's HOME

DAILY DEVOTIONS

WEEK 3

DAY 1

Acts 9:31 Then the church throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria enjoyed a time of peace. It was strengthened; and encouraged (empowered) grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord.

Two deer hunters became lost in the woods. Not knowing which way to turn, one said, "I've heard that whenever you get lost in the forest you should shoot 3 times in the air and stay where you are until help comes." They agreed, and proceeded to shoot and wait. They did this several times to no avail. At dusk one suggested, "We'd better try it one more time before we try to walk out by ourselves." But the other fellow explained, "We can't! We're out of arrows!" They did the right thing, but there was no power in what they did.

What areas of your life lack power, even though you do the right thing? What about your prayer life? How about your witnessing? Maybe your praise and worship? Or could it be your thought life? Then what about your self-discipline? Maybe patience or another fruit of the Spirit? The list could go on.

PRAY: Confess your failure as sin. Ask God to fill you with His Spirit, so you have His power behind what you do. Ask Him to show you any areas in your life where you are doing the right thing but without power.

DAY 2

John 16:6-7 But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor (comforter, helper) will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.

When I was a child I often wished that God would speak to me audibly as He did to Samuel and others in the Bible. I envied the

people who walked and talked with Jesus. I didn't realize that now, with God living in us, we have a superior privilege to those who simply had God among them.

That's why Jesus told His disciples that it was to their benefit that He go, that they were better off with the Holy Spirit in them than He among them.

The Holy Spirit is truly "Christ with us" (Immanuel). The Christ who once lived with us in the flesh now lives in us by His Spirit.

PRAY: Picture how it would be to have walked and talked with Jesus in Palestine. Now picture that same Jesus somehow miraculously living inside you, in your heart. Make Him welcome. Spend some time enjoying His presence. Make an effort all day to think of Jesus with you always in everything by His Spirit in you.

DAY 3

John 14:16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor (comforter, helper) to be with you forever-

During the time Christ was on earth with his disciples, He was always nearby to help them. Then one day He said He would soon leave, but this didn't mean they would b/e without His help. He said He wouldn't leave them helpless. He promised to send the Holy Spirit, Who would be their *paraclete*, which means "one who is called alongside to help."

Have you ever had your car refuse to start and needed a jump. Someone brought their functioning car alongside yours and fastened jumper cables. Then, with their power flowing into your weak battery, you were able to start your car. They came alongside you to help you in your time of

need. That's just what God does by sending His Spirit to help us in our time of need.

PRAY: Spend a few moments thinking of times in the distant as well as recent past when God has 'come along side you' to help you in your need, giving you His power and assistance. Think of some times you haven't realized it was Him. Thank Him for each one of these times.

DAY 4

John 14:26 But the Counselor (comforter, helper), the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you

The Holy Spirit here is called our *paraclete*, which means "one who is called alongside to help." It can also be translated "advocate," meaning an attorney for the defense. This is true of the Holy Spirit as well as Jesus (I John 2:1). They take our side together before the Judge, pleading the sacrificial offering of Jesus' own blood for our sins (I John 2:2).

Suppose your were arrested for a crime. Guilty or innocent, you would want the help of someone who could speak to the judge for you, someone who could intercede on your behalf. You wouldn't want to face the judge alone. So, too, when Satan accuses us of sin, guilty or innocent we want the help of Someone who can speak for us. We have that in Jesus (in heaven) and the Holy Spirit (in us). The Spirit comforts us, encourages us and ministers forgiveness and restoration to us. Who could want a better Lawyer?

PRAY: Think of the last time you sinned and confessed the sin. Picture Jesus in heaven as your Advocate, pleading your case by pointing to His work on the cross. Picture the Spirit countering the condemnation of Satan and bringing cleansing to your soul. If there is any sin in your life at this moment that needs confession, do so now picturing this happening in heaven and in your heart.

DAY 5

Galatians 4:6 Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father."

I recall a story about a man who had to cross a wide river on the ice. He was afraid it might be too thin, so he began to crawl on his hand and knees in great terror. He thought he might fall through at any moment. Just as he neared the opposite shore, all exhausted, another man glided past him nonchalantly sitting on a sled loaded with pig iron. How like some Christians! Headed for Heaven, they tremble at every step lest the divine promises break under their feet. They need only to look at the context of Isaiah 12:2 to realize that God is their salvation and the Lord is their strength and song.

By resting completely upon Him and taking His promises at face value, we can drive out the paralyzing fear that hinders our effectiveness in serving Christ. The biblical antidote always works: "I will trust, and not be afraid."

God's Spirit will help us get through whatever we are going through. He will help us accomplish whatever God wants us to accomplish. He is strong enough to hold us up when we trust Him.

PRAY: Where do you need God's support and help in a special way today? Trust Him to provide that through His Holy Spirit who will hold you up and keep you safe through it all.

3. HE HELPED THE SON

What is your favorite name for mate & why? For God & why?

Jesus' favorite name for God is 'Father'

Jesus' favorite name of Holy Spirit is 'Helper' (Comforter, Counselor)

I. HOLY SPIRIT HELPED JESUS

HELPER IN THE LIFE OF JESUS

KENOSIS – Jesus voluntarily laid aside use of communicable attributes (omni, etc) to be like us
Submitting to the limitations of humanity
Still God, but faced life as a man

Phil 2:5-9 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death- even death on a cross! 9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,

HOLY SPIRIT the One who helped/comforted/counseled Jesus

John 14:16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever-

Holy Spirit a COUNSELOR, COMFORTER, HELPER
-ministry to JESUS the man!

EARTHLY LIFE & PUBLIC MINISTRY

- Power force behind Virgin Birth Luke 1:35
- Maturing process of Jesus to manhood Luke 2:40,45
- Special enabling for ministry when Baptized Luke 3:21-22
- Led into wilderness & filled Him to face temptation by Satan Luke 4:1
- Ministry for 3 ½ yrs was in power and anointing of Holy Spirit Luke 4:14, 18
- Power behind miracles Jesus did Matthew 12:28

DEATH & RESURRECTION OF JESUS

- Assisted in His atoning work on cross Heb 9:14
- Raised from dead by Holy Spirit power Rom 8:1
 - vindicated Him from charges against Him by bringing back to life I Tim 3:16
 - power behind resurrection Rom 1:4; 8:11; I Pt 3:18
 - Holy Spirit brought His conception (life from nonlife)
 - His resurrection (life from death)
 - Guarantees our victory over death, too
- Involved in post resurrection glorification of Jesus John 16:14

RELATIONSHIP OF JESUS & Holy Spirit DESCRIBED AS

- led by Holy Spirit Luke 4:1 (wilderness temptation)
- filled with Holy Spirit Luke 4:1 (wilderness temptation), John 3:34,35
- anointed by Holy Spirit Luke 4:18; Acts 10:38; Heb 1:9
- empowered by Holy Spirit Matthew 12:18
- rejoiced in Holy Spirit Luke 10:21

II. HOLY SPIRIT HELPED DISCIPLES

HELPER IN THE LIFE OF THE DISCIPLES

Acts 9:31 Then the church throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria enjoyed a time of peace. It was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord.

Encouraged – PARAKALEO (same as prophesied)
Holy Spirit did what it was said He'd do!

III. HOLY SPIRIT HELPS US

A. HOLY SPIRIT IS OUR HELPER

PARACLETE = HELPER

Used 4 times in Bible by Jesus for Holy Spirit (all in Upper Room Discourse)
Jesus told disciples He would soon be leaving them – they are devastated
He tells how Holy Spirit will replace Him and their needs would be met

John 14:16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever-

Greek parakletos: 'helper, comforter, advocate, one called alongside'

Para – alongside

Kaleo – to call

– man called before court of justice to answer a charge against him

But ignorant of the law and unable to defend self calls another to stand by

Same as Greek 'ADVOCATE' (name of Jesus I Jn 2:1)

Jesus in heaven pleads our case, applying the blood of Jesus to sin

Holy Spirit ministers forgiveness, cleansing, comfort to our hearts

Gk parakaleo = legal assistant, advocate, plead for another

"come alongside" to help, guide, comfort, direct

"Another" = Greek another of SAME kind (allos, not heteros)

In the book Healing the Masculine Soul, Gordon Dalbey says that when Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit as the Helper, he uses a Greek word, paraclete, that was an ancient warrior's term. "Greek soldiers went into battle in pairs," says Dalbey, "so when the enemy attacked, they could draw together back-to-back, covering each other's blind side. One's battle partner was the paraclete." Our Lord does not send us to fight the good fight alone. The Holy Spirit is our battle partner who covers our blind side and fights for our well being.

Holy Spirit SAME KIND as Jesus, replace Him when He is gone, do same work
Holy Spirit = Jesus' 'alter ego'

JESUS parakaleo = pleads to God for the Christian
SPIRIT parakaleo = pleads to the Christian for God

JESUS: defends us when Satan accuses us of sin, etc
Jesus our defense attorney - points to blood
SPIRIT: declares to us the abiding comfort of the living God
to minister's God's comfort to us in all our needs

John 14:26 But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you

John 15:26 "When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me.

John 16:6-7 But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.

B. HOLY SPIRIT IS 'JESUS IN ME'

"THE SPIRIT OF HIS SON" = He has same nature as Jesus

Galatians 4:6 Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father."

Rom 8:15-17 For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." 16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. 17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs-heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ,

TRINITY implied

Father = God the Father

Son = God the Son

Spirit = God the Holy Spirit

'His Son' = combines God the Father and Son together
focus is on Father-Son relationship

Bible also says we are in God's family by ADOPTION

In by birth (new birth – born a son)

In by adoption (God adopted us as His own)

“THE SPIRIT OF JESUS” = He does the work of salvation

Acts 16:7 When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to.

Holy Spirit kept Paul & co from going to Asia or Mysia

Instead had them go to Macedonia (Europe)

Holy Spirit closes some doors, opens others

Must learn to LISTEN to voice of Holy Spirit within

Holy Spirit shows us GOD'S WILL

“THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST”

Rom 8:9-10 You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.

Romans 8:5-8 life controlled by Holy Spirit

-continual desire to do right 5

-daily experience of life and peace 6

'Spirit of Christ' – represents Jesus, brings His benefits

= He assists in the threefold anointed office

-prophet, -priest, -king

Spirit Of Christ = proceeds from and represents Christ

'Christ' = Messiah, Anointed One

If don't have Spirit of Christ, don't have Jesus so not a believer

“THE SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIST” = assists in balanced ministry of Son

Phil 1:19 for I know that through your prayers and the help given by the Spirit of Jesus Christ, what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance.

Paul in prison (Eph, Phil, Col, Phile)

Holy Spirit makes Jesus Christ real to us in suffering, trials

Jesus knows all about pain, suffering – went thru it

DAILY DEVOTIONS

WEEK 4

DAY 1

John 3:7-8 You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' 8 The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

This verse could also be translated, "The Spirit blows wherever it pleases." The same word is used in the original for both "wind" and "Spirit." The Hebrew word for both is *ruach*, and its use is governed by the context. The same is true of the Greek word, *pneuma*, which is either translated wind or Spirit, as the setting might indicate.

Only the Spirit can bring one to salvation. Only the Spirit can bring power after salvation. He is given as a sovereign gift of grace. It cannot be produced by our efforts, feelings or emotions.

"Dey jeeted me on der windmill," complained Adolf. "I buy der windmill and set it up on my farm and it don't work. I don't pay for it; it ain't goot. I sit by him one whole day and it make no wind at all." "Maybe there was no wind, Adolf," said a friend. "Of course there was no wind! Would I buy a windmill to make wind when there was wind?" Foolish, you say? Yes, indeed, but no more silly than to live a Christian life by our own efforts without the power of the Holy Spirit.

PRAY: Ask God to show you where you are trying to live for Him by your own efforts. It's probably where you are failing because you don't have His power behind you. Ask Him to forgive you and fill you with His power.

DAY 2

Acts 2:2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from

heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.

Donald Barnhouse told about when he went to Africa for a visit. He said the first lesson he learned was to find out on which side of the house the wind was blowing. Coming out the front door to sit on a porch, he said they walked first to one end, and then to the other. Generally, a breeze would be in one place or the other, and there they placed their chairs. When the breeze shifted they moved their chairs to where it was.

Thus we must seek the motions of the Spirit. Where is the Spirit moving in your life? That's where you need to place yourself, allowing Him to work in you. Where is He working in your family? In your church? Be sensitive to what He is doing and put yourself there so you can feel his comfort and allow Him to work in you.

PRAY: Pray about the places and ways God's Spirit is moving in your life, your family and your church. Make sure you are placed where He can touch you.

DAY 3

John 20:21-22 And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

On a country road in Formosa, a missionary saw a farmer driving a large flock of ducks. There must have been a hundred of them, so tightly packed together that some of their heads could not be seen. The only guidance they had came from the breeze of a large feather fan waved behind them by the driver. If a duck strayed from the group, a breeze was fanned at it, and it returned to the body of the flock.

Thus the Lord leads believers. If they will be led by the wind of the Spirit, He will

blow His steady guidance. He never takes stern measures to the believer who accepts the soft caress of His breeze.

PRAY: Listen to what God's Spirit is saying to you. What guidance, comfort, warning, encouragement or direction is He giving? Listen carefully for His still, small voice. Don't make Him speak loudly or bring trials to get your attention. Listen. Listen throughout the day. Never stop listening.

DAY 4

He sends out His word, and melts them; He causes His wind to blow, and the waters flow. Psalm 147:18

"Look at that wind blow!" said a friend to a neighbor during a violent storm. "I don't see any wind," answered the neighbor. "In fact, I've never seen the wind!" The friend looked at him as though he had lost his mind and said, "Look at those swaying branches on the trees. The dust swirling about – look at those whitecaps on the lake, look at -." "Yes, yes, I see all that, but I don't see the wind! I see what the wind does. I know it is blowing hard, but I don't see it." Finally he understood.

Wind is a symbol of the Spirit of God. He too is invisible. We cannot see Him but we can know Him by what He does. When we are filled with the Spirit others can't see the Spirit in us, but they can see the results of what the Spirit does. Can others see the Spirit working through you? What results of the Spirit are evident in your life? What can you do to better allow God's Spirit to blow through your life, leaving evidence for others of His presence and work?

PRAY: For God's Spirit to work through your life, showing Himself to others around you. Ask that He would get the credit for the good things in your, not you. Allow Him to work so fully in your life that others can't help but notice.

DAY 5

Amos 4:13-5:1 He who forms the mountains, creates the wind, and reveals

his thoughts to man, he who turns dawn to darkness, and treads the high places of the earth- the LORD God Almighty is his name.

Have you ever wondered why planes always take off into the wind when it seems they would gain speed much faster with the wind behind them? Ask a pilot that and you'll probably get a look pity as he wonders how foolish you can be.

The reason is that a strong head wind actually assists in the take-off while a tail wind can be very dangerous. The head wind stabilizes the plane, the tail wind carries it out of direction. It's the opposite for a boat, but not a plane.

The wind in the Bible is a picture of the Holy Spirit. When we row and work we better be going with the 'wind' of the Spirit or we won't get anywhere. But when we cease our working and take a seat by faith in the airplane of God's salvation, we are borne up and up by this same Spirit. Instead of contrary winds, this same Spirit is the power which lifts us higher and higher. When we stop our "toiling" and vain efforts to do things in our own strength and yield to the Spirit of grace, our safe arrival is assured! It may seem contrary to our common sense, but that's the way God's principles work. Why row a boat when you can fly in a plane?

PRAY: Where is your striving in your own strength failing? In your mind sit back and allow God's Spirit to work in and through you to accomplish that which you on your own aren't able. Enjoy the ride today!

4. HE IS A PERSON

THE SPIRIT

Num 11:17 I will come down and speak with you there, and I will take of the Spirit that is on you and put the Spirit on them. They will help you carry the burden of the people so that you will not have to carry it alone.

Num 11:25 Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke with him, and he took of the Spirit that was on him and put the Spirit on the seventy elders. When the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied, but they did not do so again.

Num 11:26 However, two men, whose names were Eldad and Medad, had remained in the camp. They were listed among the elders, but did not go out to the Tent. Yet the Spirit also rested on them, and they prophesied in the camp.

SPIRIT (Heb. ruah, "breath, wind"; Grk. pneuma, "wind, breath," the "vital principle," etc.). (Latin, spiritus):

1. Primary and Figurative Senses:

(1) Used primarily in the Old Testament and New Testament of the wind, as in Gen 8:1; Num 11:31; Amos 4:13 ("createth the wind"); Heb 1:7 (angels, "spirits" or "winds" in margin); often used of the breath, as in Job 12:10; 15:30, and in 2 Thess 2:8 (wicked consumed by "the breath of his mouth").

(2) In a figurative sense it was used as indicating anger or fury, and as such applied even to God, who destroys by the "breath of his nostrils" (Job 4:9; Ex 15:8; 2 Sam 22:16; see 2 Thess 2:8).

(3) Hence, applied to man-as being the seat of emotion in desire or trouble, and thus gradually of mental and moral qualities in general (Ex 28:3, "the spirit of wisdom"; Ezek 11:19, "a new spirit" etc.). Where man is deeply stirred by the Divine Spirit, as among the prophets, we have a somewhat similar use of the word, in such expressions as: "The Spirit of the Lord came upon him" (1 Sam 10:10).

His personality is proved by attributes and acts being attributed to Him peculiarly.

His Godhead, distinct personality, and oneness with the Father and the Son, are implied in the baptismal formula enjoined by Christ (Matt 28:19).

He "hears," "speaks," "teaches," "guides into all truth," "glorifies Christ," "receives of Christ's things," namely, from the Father and Son, "and shows them," "brings all Christ's words to His people's remembrance," "shows things to come," "knoweth the things of God," "searcheth all things, yea the deep things of God," and "reveals them" to the Spirit taught (1 Cor 2:9-15); therefore is divine.

In Old Testament the law was in the foreground, the Holy Spirit less prominent; in New Testament the Holy Spirit is prominent, the law in the background.

BREATH OF LIFE

Rev 11:11 But after the three and a half days a breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and terror struck those who saw them.

Rom 8:2 *because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death*

Gen 2:6-7 *the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.*

BREATH – life force

More than just physical, but all that makes man including soul/spirit

This is what makes us different than animals

Disproves evolution (man advanced animal)

Life finds its source in God (as Holy Spirit brought dead waters to life in Gen 1:2)

Only God is SELF-EXISTENT, no outside cause, no beginning or end

WIND

John 3:7-8 *You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' 8 The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."*

VISUAL: make a pinwheel, blow on it, blow on hands. HS felt but not seen

Wind good picture of Holy Spirit

Invisible – hear/feel/see results but not it itself

Unpredictable

Exists everywhere, working everywhere in world at once
continually in motion,

experienced in varying degrees

beyond man's controls

John 20:21-22 *And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.*

Acts 2:2 *Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.*

THE Spirit – only one, distinct from false Spirits ('God is Spirit')

THE (article) – PERSON is emphasized

No article – POWER of the Person focused on

HE – not 'it' (influence, force) John 14:17; 16:13

John 14:17 *the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.*

John 16:13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

John 16 personal pronoun used for Holy Spirit 13 times

PERSONALITY:

Mind, intellect I Cor 2:11

1 Cor 2:11 For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.

Will, volition Eph 1:17

Eph 1:17 I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.

Emotions, sensibilities Rom 15:30; 8:26; Eph 4:30

Rom 15:30 I urge you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me.

Rom 8:26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express.

‘Helps’ – come alongside in race to aid someone in need

we in race struggle, hurt, Holy Spirit alongside, holds up,

get opposite of what pray for? Proof Holy Spirit alongside, helping

‘If they saw big picture, here’s what they’d pray for, they don’t, I do’
edits our prayer so gets to heaven right, answered by God

Actions of a person used of Holy Spirit

Teach

Enlighten

Guide

Strive

Speak

Intercede

Command

Send

Call

Comfort

Work

Cry

Pray

Lead

Inspire

DON'T GRIEVE

Eph 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

the Holy Spirit of God = full name/title for Holy Spirit
like 'Lord Jesus Christ' full name/title of Jesus

grieve = Holy Spirit person, can be hurt, feel, emotions – by our sin (why does our sin hurt Him?)
Holy Spirit very sensitive to sin in our lives

Mistreatment of Him proves His personality. He can be:

Lied against	Tempted
Resisted	Grieved
Despised	Blasphemed against
Ignored	

Eph 4:29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. 32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Take a 'relationship inventory' to see if you are grieving Him?

Isa 63:10-11 Yet they rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit. So he turned and became their enemy and he himself fought against them. 11 Then his people recalled the days of old, the days of Moses and his people - where is he who brought them through the sea, with the shepherd of his flock? Where is he who set his Holy Spirit among them,

referring to Numbers 20, Jews complained about lack of water at Kadesh, Moses told to speak to rock and water came forth, instead hit rock 2x

Holy Spirit 'grieved' by: lack of gratitude on part of people

Lack of self control on part of Moses

Holy Spirit is COMFORTER, but is still HOLY Spirit, grieved at our sin

Feel His grief in our conscience

DON'T QUENCH

1 Thess 5:19 Do not put out the Spirit's fire;

A friend of Vance Havner coined a word by combining the words squelch and quench. He used to say, "Don't 'squench' the Spirit." Havner thought it was so descriptive that he often used it in his preaching. Havner said, "We 'squench' the Spirit in more ways than we suspect. We do so when we stifle the desire to speak or act for the Lord. When we criticize or discourage others by an unspiritual attitude, we 'throw cold water' on their inner fire. We have the Holy Spirit as an honored Guest in every Christian gathering, and He can be grieved very easily. A frivolous attitude, a rebellious frame of mind, or a fed-up complacency will do it."

DAILY DEVOTIONS

WEEK 5

DAY 1

Eph 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

"Sam's Buy-Line" (Vol. 5, No. 3, Fall 1991) carried an article entitled "Why 99.9% Just Won't Do." It was written by Jeff Dewar, Quality Control Specialist for Teamworks, Inc. He was approaching the subject from a quality-control perspective, naturally. But his words have much greater application than that. Apply what he wrote to our lives. Is it truly necessary to go for "zero defects"? Why isn't 99.9% defect free good enough? This is what life would be like if things were done 99.9% of the time.

We'd have to accept:

- one hour of unsafe drinking water a month
- two unsafe plane landings per day at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago
- 16,000 pieces of mail lost by the U.S. Postal Service every hour
- 20,000 incorrect drug prescriptions a year
- 500 incorrect surgical operations a week.
- 50 newborns dropped at birth by doctors
- 22,000 checks deducted from the wrong bank accounts each hour
- 32,000 missed heartbeats per person year.

Suddenly, the quest for zero defects makes a lot of sense!

What about you? How much sin are you tolerating in your life, excusing it as OK and 'normal'? How does it appear in God's sight?

PRAY: Confess every sin in your life, no matter how 'small' it seems. Ask God to cleanse you and make you holy by His Holy Spirit. Ask Him to show you every little sin you commit today.

DAY 2

Matt 3:11 "I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

In his powerful book *The Holiness of God*, R.C. Sproul observed that unbelievers often feel uneasy in the presence of an obedient Christian. The holiness of God reflected in a believer's life makes the non-Christian uncomfortable. Sproul then told the following true incident to illustrate his point.

A well-known professional golfer was playing in a tournament with President Gerald Ford, fellow pro Jack Nicklaus, and Billy Graham. After the round was over, one of the other pros on the tour asked, "Hey, what was it like playing with the President and Billy Graham?" The pro said with disgust, "I don't need Billy Graham stuffing religion down my throat!" With that he headed for the practice tee. His friend followed, and after the golfer had pounded out his fury on a bucket of golf balls, he asked, "Was Billy a little rough on you out there?" The pro sighed and said with embarrassment, "No, he didn't even mention religion."

Sproul commented, "Astonishingly, Billy Graham had said nothing about God, Jesus, or religion, yet the pro stomped away after the game accusing Billy of trying to ram religion down his throat." What had happened? Simply this: The evangelist had so reflected Christlikeness that his presence made the pro feel uncomfortable.

I wonder, do unbelievers sense our godly influence? If we are identified with Christ and walk in holiness, they will -- before we even mention religion.

PRAY: Ask God to use your life as a testimony to others. Pray that your holiness would shine through to others.

DAY 3

Mark 13:11 Whenever you are arrested and brought to trial, do not worry beforehand about what to say. Just say whatever is given you at the time, for it is not you speaking, but the Holy Spirit.

One day a young minister was being escorted through a coal mine. At the entrance of one of the dim passageways, he spied a beautiful white flower growing out of the black earth. "How can it blossom in such purity and radiance in this dirty mine?" the preacher asked. "Throw some coal dust on it and see for yourself," his guide replied. When he did, he was surprised that the fine, sooty particles slid right off the snowy petals, leaving the plant just as lovely and unstained as before. Its surface was so smooth that the grit and grime could not adhere to it.

Our hearts should have the same characteristic. Just as that flower could not control its habitat, so we cannot help it that we have to live in a world filled with evil. But God's grace can keep us so clean and unspotted that though we touch every side, it will not cling to us.

If we want the Lord's full blessing and approval, we must heed the admonition, "...keep thyself pure" (1 Tim 5:22). By the cleansing power of His Word and the sanctifying influence of His Holy Spirit, it is possible for the Christian to remain "clean in a dirty place."

PRAY: Ask God to make you clean and holy by His Holy Spirit. Thank Him for making this available to you every moment of every day.

DAY 4

Luke 11:13 If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father

in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Lois K. Blanchard pictures Christ as still walking the streets today. She asks these pointed questions: "If Jesus came to your own home to spend a day or two -- If He came unexpectedly, I wonder what you'd do? I know you'd give your nicest room to such an honored Guest, and all the food you'd serve to Him would be the very best. And you would keep assuring Him you're glad to have Him there -- That serving Him in your own home is joy beyond compare; but when you saw Him standing there, could you go to the door, with arms outstretched to welcome Him your Heavenly Visitor? Or would you have to change some things before you let Him in? Or hide some magazines and put the Bible where they'd been? Would family conversation be continued at its pace? And would you find it hard each meal to say a table grace? Would you be glad to have him meet your very closest friends? Or would you hope they'd stay away until His visit ends? Would you be glad to have Him stay forever, on and on? Or would you sigh with great relief when He at last was gone? It might cause some embarrassment the things that you would do, if Jesus came to your own house to spend some time with you.

Does your 'house' need cleansing for God's Holy Spirit to feel at home in it?

PRAY: Confess anything in your life that might make the Holy Spirit uncomfortable. Ask God to cleanse you and keep every part of your house clean all day long.

PRAY: Ask God to

5. HE IS OF A HOLY CHARACTER

The newspaper gave these facts: Three persons were picked up by police and charged with indecent exposure. The trio said that they had been reading Matthew's account of the parable of the mustard seed when they thought they were being filled with the Holy Spirit. Acting on the impulse of the moment, they immediately discarded their clothing and covered themselves with mustard. Then they commandeered a neighborhood delivery truck and went for a brief joyride in full view of astonished bystanders. When the police finally stopped them, the offenders pleaded innocent, claiming they were merely trying "to get back to Eden."

A true love of God must begin with a delight in his holiness, and not with a delight in any other attribute; for no other attribute is truly lovely without this.

-- Jonathon Edwards in A Treatise Concerning Religious Affections: Works (Vol. V).

HOLY SPIRIT

Eph 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Grk. to pneuma to hagion,

HEBREW (qadhosh, "holy," qodhesh, "holiness")

1. The Holiness of God: As applied to God the notion of holiness is used in the Old Testament in two distinct senses: (1) First in the more general sense of **separation from all that is human** and earthly. It thus denotes the absoluteness, majesty, and awfulness of the Creator in His distinction from the creature. In this use of the word, "holiness" is little more than an equivalent general term for "Godhead," and the adjective "holy" is almost synonymous with "Divine" (compare Dan 4:8-9,18; 5:11). Yahweh's "holy arm" (Isa 52:10; Ps 98:1) is His Divine arm, and His "holy name" (Lev 20:3, etc.) is His Divine name. When Hannah sings "There is none holy as Yahweh" (1 Sam 2:2), the rest of the verse suggests that she is referring, not to His ethical holiness, but simply to His supreme Divinity.

(2) But, in the next place, holiness of **character** in the distinct ethical sense is ascribed to God. The injunction, "Be ye holy; for I am holy" (Lev 11:44; 19:2), plainly implies an ethical conception. Men cannot resemble God in His incommunicable attributes. They can reflect His likeness only along the lines of those moral qualities of righteousness and love in which true holiness consists. In the Psalmists and Prophets the Divine holiness becomes, above all, an ethical reality convicting men of sin (Isa 6:3,5) and demanding of those who would stand in His presence clean hands and a pure heart (Ps 24:3 f).

The Old Testament clearly and emphatically teaches that God is "holy." He is "the Holy One of Israel" Isa 1:4, the "holy God" Isa 5:16, and "the Holy One" Isa 40:25. His name is "Holy": "For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones" Isa 57:15.

God is holy and holiness (is) the moral condition necessary to the health of his universe. ...Whatever is holy is healthy, ...the holiness of God, the wrath of God, and the health of creation

are inseparably united. God's wrath is his utter intolerance of whatever degrades and destroys. He hates iniquity as a mother hated the polio that would take the life of the child. -- A. W. Tozer, Leadership, Vol. 1, no. 3.

Billy Graham says real REVIVAL here when man experiences a new awareness of the sinfulness of man and the holiness of God

A NEW SPIRIT

Ezekiel much about Holy Spirit as looks to Israel regathered and regenerated in Land

- Millennial Kingdom, land theirs, peace, etc
- spiritual change and victory for them, too

Ezek 11:19 I will give them an undivided heart and put a new Spirit in them; I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh.

Ezek 18:31 Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new Spirit.

Ezek 36:26-27 I will give you a new heart and put a new Spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

NEW = in comparison to old sin nature, old heart we are all born with

Believer 'new creation' old things gone, all things become new (II Cor 5:17)

Done by Holy Spirit, not by us!

"Behold I make all things new."

HEART OF STONE – hard, cold, unresponsive to God

HEART OF FLESH – alive, sensitive, responsive

SPIRIT OF GLORY

1 Peter 4:13-14 If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.

He Himself shares God's Glory – Holy Spirit Shekinah Glory

SPIRIT OF GRACE

Heb 10:29-30 How much more severely do you think a man deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God under foot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified him, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace?

Holy Spirit, like God the Father and God the Son, full of GRACE

HEBREWS: Jewish believers undergoing persecution, some who have heard truth of Jesus but not believed tempted to go back to old legal system before heard about Jesus – can't do it!

Insult to God's GRACE to turn back to LAW

Zech 12:10-11 "And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.

Future restoration for Israel coming – by Grace, not because they deserve it
One day spiritual blinders removed, see what they did to God's Messiah
Mass revival, repentance, turning to God (in Tribulation)
This will happen during the Tribulation

SPIRIT OF JUSTICE

Isa 28:5-6 5 In that day the LORD Almighty will be a glorious crown, a beautiful wreath for the remnant of his people. 6 He will be a spirit of justice to him who sits in judgment, a source of strength to those who turn back the battle at the gate.

Isaiah 28 prophecies fall of Samaria, capital of northern kingdom
God come like driving hailstorm and destroy city v 2
Will use Assyrians to do this
Will gobble up city like person eats ripe fig
Awful judgment will lead many to turn to the Lord v 5

God hates injustice, Holy Spirit is HOLY and therefore Just, never wrong or unfair
-we know that He is just and fair with us
-He wants us to be that way as we are filled with His 'Spirit of Justice'

SPIRIT OF JUDGMENT

Isaiah 4:4 The Lord will wash away the filth of the women of Zion; he will cleanse the bloodstains from Jerusalem by a spirit of judgment and a spirit of fire.

Context here is of TRIBULATION JUDGMENT on sin of man's rebellion, rejection
Culminates with Armageddon, then cleanse the city from the blood of the battle
People cleansed by 2nd coming – believers OK, unbel taken in judgment
Land cleansed by fire to be purified for Millennial Kingdom

Part of being HOLY is judging sin (true of Holy Spirit)
-making righteous, true judgment about sin (not reactions, shoot from hip, etc)
-always done with complete knowledge of all circumstances, heart motives, etc.
-cleanses our sin by fire – removes it, cleanses us

SPIRIT OF LOVE

2 Tim 1:6-7 For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a

spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

II Timothy Paul's last letter, shortly before death, to one like a son to him (closest person to him)
In dungeon in Mamartine Prison awaiting death
Still no fear for Paul – Holy Spirit produced power, love, self-control in him
No bitterness, anger, revenge – just LOVE (fruit of Holy Spirit)

SPIRIT OF PRAISE

1 Cor 14:15 So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my mind; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my mind.

sing with my spirit – no 'my' – lit "sing with the Spirit"

Holy Spirit sings praises to Jesus

Holy Spirit puts songs in our hearts, motivates us to sing, directs praise to Jesus

SPIRIT OF TRUTH

John 14:15-16 "If you love me, you will obey what I command. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever- the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

Very essence and character of God and Holy Spirit are grounded in truth

Jesus: "I am the way, the truth and the life" John 14:6

Holy Spirit speaks only the truth about God, Jesus, salvation, Christian life, God's will, etc.

Watch for untruth from Satan, counterfeit to mislead us

"Test the spirits" I John 4:1-4 – see what is Holy Spirit (truth) and what is demonic spirit (lie)

YOUR GOOD SPIRIT

Ps 143:10 Teach me to do your will, for you are my God; may your good Spirit lead me on level ground.

Neh 9:20 You gave your good Spirit to instruct them. You did not withhold your manna from their mouths, and you gave them water for their thirst.

Holy Spirit is GOOD – nothing evil or even neutral about Him

"Goodness" a fruit of Holy Spirit He produces in us Gal 5:22

Because He is good, all He does is also good

So what we get from the Holy Spirit is also good, because He is good.

Nehemiah telling story of God's faithfulness to the people in past so they faithful to Him now

Specifically talking about 40 years wandering – out of fellowship with God but cared for

Despite their sin and rebellion, God was still good to them

DAILY DEVOTIONS

WEEK 6

DAY 1

Joel 2:28 `And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions.

A mother, wishing to encourage her young son's progress at the piano, bought tickets for a Paderewski performance. When the night arrived, they found their seats near the front of the concert hall and eyed the majestic Steinway waiting on stage. Soon the mother found a friend to talk to, and the boy slipped away. When eight o'clock arrived, the spotlights came on, the audience quieted, and only then did they notice the boy up on the bench, innocently picking out, "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star." His mother gasped, but before she could retrieve her son, the master appeared on the stage and quickly moved to the keyboard. He whispered to the boy, "Don't quit--keep playing." Leaning over, Paderewski reached down with his left hand and began filling in a bass part. Soon his right arm reached around the other side, encircling the child, to add a running obbligato. Together, the old master and the young novice held the crowd mesmerized. In our lives, unpolished though we may be, it is the Master who surrounds us and whispers in our ear, time and again, "Don't quit--keep playing." And as we do, he augments and supplements until a work of amazing beauty is created.

PRAY: Thank God for His help in your life. Keep faithfully serving Him today in the responsibilities He has given you, allowing Him to reach around you and turn your feeble efforts into something fit for the kingdom.

DAY 2

Rom 15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him,

so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

A pastor was visiting an elderly woman recently. While there she asked him to get a box of letters from her dresser. As he was getting the letters, he saw a beautiful quilt in the drawer. When he asked about the quilt she said he could take it out and look at it. What a masterpiece! She told him her grandmother had made the quilt as a wedding gift years before. When he asked her why she did not have it on her bed, she said, "Oh, it's too beautiful to use." He thought it sad that she felt her gift was better hidden in a drawer--preserved--rather than used. God gave humanity a beautiful gift, the most beautiful gift in the world. Do we consider this gift something that should be tucked away in a drawer, "too beautiful to use"?

What gifts has God given you that you aren't using as you should? Take them out of the drawer and put them to use for His kingdom today. Allow the Spirit to work that gift through to His glory.

PRAY: Commit all your gifts to God's service. Give His Spirit to use each gift He has given you for His glory. Ask for opportunities to use all your gifts for Him.

DAY 3

Acts 1:4 On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about.

For all the negative things we have to say to ourselves, God has a positive answer for it.

You say: "It's impossible"

God says: All things are possible (Luke 18:27)

You say: "I'm too tired"

God says: I will give you rest (Matthew 11:28-30)

You say: "Nobody really loves me"

God says: I love you (John 3:16 & John 13:34)

You say: "I can't go on"

God says: My grace is sufficient (II Corinthians 12:9 & Psalm 91:15)

You say: "I can't figure things out"

God says: I will direct your steps (Proverbs 3:5-6)

You say: "I can't do it"

God says: You can do all things (Philippians 4:13)

You say: "I'm not able"

God says: I am able (II Corinthians 9:8)

You say: "It's not worth it"

God says: It will be worth it (Romans 8:28)

You say: "I can't forgive myself"

God says: I FORGIVE YOU (I John 1:9 & Romans 8:1)

You say: "I can't manage"

God says: I will supply all your needs (Philippians 4:19)

You say: "I'm afraid"

God says: I have not given you a spirit of fear (II Timothy 1:7)

You say: "I'm always worried and frustrated"

God says: Cast all your cares on ME (I Peter 5:7)

You say: "I don't have enough faith"

God says: I've given everyone a measure of faith (Romans 12:3)

You say: "I'm not smart enough"

God says: I give you wisdom (I Corinthians 1:30)

You say: "I feel all alone"

God says: I will never leave you or forsake you (Hebrews 13:5)

PRAY: Which of these do you need today? Read the promise as a prayer, asking God to bring it about in your life. Thank Him for doing so.

DAY 4

Acts 2:38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

For the real good of every gift it is essential, first, that the giver be in the gift--as God always is, for He is love--and next, that the receiver know and receive the giver in the gift. Every gift of God is but a harbinger of His greatest and only sufficing gift--that of Himself. No gift unrecognized as coming from God is at its own best: therefore many things that God would gladly give us must wait until we ask for them, that we may know whence they come. When in all gifts we find Him, then in Him we shall find all things. (George Macdonald, Second Series, "The Word of Jesus on Prayer")

God's great gift to us is salvation, delivered and applied by the Holy Spirit. In the person of Spirit God has given us Himself.

If life is to have meaning, and if God's will is to be done, all of us have to accept who we are and what we are, give it back to God, and thank Him for the way He made us. What I am is God's gift to me; what I do with it is my gift to Him.

PRAY: What 'gift' can you give God today? What can you give back to Him for all He has done for you? What are you doing with your life for Him?

6. HE IS A PROMISED GIFT

It has become a central part of modern communications. It is present everywhere we turn: on our documents, our desktops, even around the edges of our computer monitors. It is known as the "Little Yellow Sticky," or more formally as the "Post-It Note." Wouldn't it be great to own the patent on the "Post-It Note!" We use them everyday to make quick notes to ourselves, or to write extra information on a report that is given to others, or to jot down a quick "to-do." Then, at some point in the future, every Little Yellow Sticky meets the same fate. We throw them out. Their usefulness is done, the words they carry are no longer important, and they get tossed!

"This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people." Jeremiah 31:33

The verse talks about a time when God was speaking to His people and He was making them a promise. An eternal promise that He would be their God: their protector, their Lord; and they would be His people: His children, the ones He loves and cherishes. It was an important promise and He wanted to write it where they would always remember it. So He wrote it on their hearts. Not on a tablet that could break, or on paper that would fade, and certainly not on a Little Yellow Sticky, that could easily be pulled off and thrown out. He wrote it on their hearts.

Writing on hearts is tricky business. It must start with the One who has an infinite amount of patience and care as well as a Creator's knowledge of the human heart. For anyone else to try this delicate procedure would only lead to disaster. But it also takes a willing heart. A person who trusts the Writer enough to open their heart to His touch. Someone who makes their heart available to be written on.

So how does your heart look these days? Is it covered with the "Stickies" of our modern culture? The opinions that come and go so quickly. The ideas of men that are heard and tossed away like Post-It Note Philosophies. Or is your heart covered with the timeless and permanent words of God. Has He written His promises on your Heart? Let today be the day that you make your heart available to the Author of Creation, the One who wants to write His story on your heart and in your life!

HOLY SPIRIT is God's post-it note attached to our heart

PROMISE

Acts 1:4 On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about.

Luke 24:49 I (God the Son) am going to send you what my Father (God the Father) has promised (God the Holy Spirit); but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Gal 3:14 He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

Genesis 12:1-3 God promised Gentiles as well as Jews blessed thru Abraham

Acts 2:32-34 *God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact. 33 Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.*

Holy Spirit upon them in Upper Room is proof Jesus is in heaven

Holy Spirit FIRST PROMISED:

Joel 2:28 *And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions.*

Literally fulfilled in Tribulation, by Jewish believers at 2nd coming

Still true: Holy Spirit prophesied to come

Now GRACE on Bride of Christ before Jewish believers in Tribulation

Peter applied it this way on Day of Pentecost, Acts 2:16

Coming of Holy Spirit = Advent (like birth of Jesus His advent)

Jer 31:31-34 *"The time is coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. 32 It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them," declares the LORD. 33 "This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. 34 No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the LORD. "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."*

NEW COVENANT = new heart

GOD KEPT HIS PROMISE TO SEND HIS HOLY SPIRIT

March 11, 1942, was a dark, desperate day at Corregidor. The Pacific theater of war was threatening and bleak. One island after another had been buffeted into submission. The enemy was now marching into the Philippines as confident and methodical as the star band in the Rose Bowl parade. Surrender was inevitable. The brilliant and bold soldier, Douglas MacArthur, had only three words for his comrades as he stepped into the escape boat destined for Australia: I shall return. Upon arriving nine days later in the port of Adelaide, the sixty- two-year-old military statesman closed his remarks with this sentence: I came through and I shall return. A little over 2 1/2 years later -- October 20, 1944, to be exact -- he stood once again on Philippine soil after landing safely at Leyte Island. This is what he said: This is the voice of freedom, General MacArthur speaking. People of the Philippines: I have returned! MacArthur kept his word. His word was as good as his bond. Regardless of the odds against him, including the pressures and power of enemy strategy, he was bound and determined to make his promise good.

Mark 1:7-8 *And this was his message: "After me will come one more powerful than I, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. 8 I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."*

JOHN THE BAPTIST said Messiah will send Holy Spirit to followers

HOLY SPIRIT IN OLD TESTAMENT

Num 11:29 But Moses replied, "Are you jealous for my sake? I wish that all the LORD's people were prophets and that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!"

Eldad & Medad prophesying but not under Moses' authority

Joshua wanted Moses to stop them, this Moses' response

Ps 51:10-12 Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. 11 Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Nothing we have to be concerned with today

An old clock that stands in a corner once had a beautiful chime; now it has a harsh metallic sound. A bit of broken spring fell against the chime while it was being repaired, and this little piece of metal is causing all the discord. As soon as this bit is removed, the hour will strike again in a rich, full tone.

Is there discord in your life? It takes but a bit of anything to deaden the note of joy. Whatever it is, great or small, it may be removed by yieldedness to our Lord Jesus Christ. David knew where to go when he cried, "Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation..."

HOLY SPIRIT IN NEW TESTAMENT

Rom 8:9-10 You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.

GIFT

Acts 2:38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Peter's sermon on Pentecost (Advent of Holy Spirit, birth of church)

Their requirements in response to having rejected/crucified Messiah:

1. Repent – inner attitude change, accept salvation

"If our greatest need had been information, God would have sent us an educator. If our greatest need had been technology, God would have sent us a scientist. If our greatest need had been money, God would have sent us an economist. But since our greatest need was forgiveness, God sent us a Savior."

2. Be baptized – take public stand for Jesus

What they will receive when they do these 2:

1. **Sins forgiven (salvation)**
2. gift of Holy Spirit (to live Christian life)

GIFT FROM GOD THE FATHER

John 14:16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever-

GIFT = free, nothing to earn or deserve

If you have the Spirit without the Word, you blow up. If you have the Word without the Spirit, you dry up. If you have both the Word and the Spirit, you grow up.

Acts 8:18-20 When Simon saw that the Spirit was given at the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money 19 and said, "Give me also this ability so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." Peter answered: "May your money perish with you, because you thought you could buy the gift of God with money!"

Simon wanting to buy Holy Spirit from Peter (purchase own 'franchise')

GIFT FROM GOD THE SON

John 15:26 "When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me.

Came at Pentecost, proof Jesus was in heaven, ascended and alive

Coming of Holy Spirit = Advent (like birth of Jesus His advent)

1 John 3:24 Those who obey his commands live in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

CAME ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE

John 16:13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

"when He comes" = willing, voluntary advent and activities of the Spirit

Holy Spirit = God's gift to us

Also gives us gifts

-blessings from God (Ephesians 1)

-spiritual gifts to serve others for God

Heb 2:4 gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

DAILY DEVOTIONS

WEEK 7

DAY 1

Gen 1:2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

I found the following account in my files:

My wife and I recently went on vacation, and as is our habit we brought along a camera and several rolls of film. Upon our return my wife began proudly showing off our latest set of vacation photos, and then each day she'd relate her coworkers' reactions to me. After a few days of this I noticed a recurring theme in her friends' reactions. Invariably, people would say, "Wow, your husband must have a really nice camera!"

Even though people liked my photos, I was disappointed. I wanted them to acknowledge what a good photographer I am, not what a good camera I have.

After a week of this I ranted to my wife: "Why do people do this? Nobody looks at a painting and says, 'Nice brushes!' Nobody looks at a skyscraper and says, 'Nice drafting table!' Nobody looks at a sculpture and says, 'Nice chisel!' What's wrong with these people?"

It felt good to get that off my chest. Until my wife reminded me, "So, how often do you look at creation and say, 'Nice work, God'?"

PRAY: What do you take credit for in your life that you should be giving the credit to God? If He, through His Spirit, created everything, thank Him for things you have taken credit for yourself.

DAY 2

Ps 8:3-6 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, 4 what is man that you are

mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? 5 You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. 6 You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet:

"I believe that God has created me and all that exists; that he has given and still preserves to me my body and soul, my eyes and ears, and all my members, my reason and all the power of my soul, together with food and raiment, home and family, and all my property; that he daily provides abundantly for all the needs of my life, protects me from all danger, and guards and keeps me from all evil; and that he does this purely out of fatherly and divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me; for all which I am in duty bound to thank, praise, serve, and obey him. This is most certainly true." -- Martin Luther, from his Small Catechism in "Martin Luther--Later Years and Legacy," Christian History

PRAY: Spend some time thanking God for His marvelous creation. Be specific and detailed. Think of the parts of His creation that mean the most to you and thank Him for them one by one.

DAY 3

Heb 11:3 By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

In the early days of the automobile a man's Model-T Ford stalled in the middle of the road. He couldn't get it started no matter how hard he cranked nor how much he tried to advance the spark or adjust things under the hood. Just then a chauffeured limousine pulled up behind him, and a wiry, energetic

man stepped out from the back seat and offered his assistance. After tinkering for a few moments the stranger said, "Now try it!" Immediately the engine leaped to life. The well-dressed individual then identified himself as Henry Ford. "I designed and built these cars," he said, "so I know what to do when something goes wrong." God, as our creator knows how to "fix" us when our lives are broken by sin.

PRAY: What has been going wrong in you life? What have you been able to fix on your own? Take it to the Creator and ask that His Spirit recreate that work inside of you. Thank Him for it.

DAY 4

Job 33:4 The Spirit of God has made me; the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

One Thanksgiving Day I was home alone in the evening. On my favorite radio program, Bill Pearce, the host of "Night Sounds," asked us to think of all the things for which we were thankful--our country, our families, home, work, and all the rest. Then he challenged us: "Have you ever stopped to be thankful just for yourself?" As he candidly shared his own struggles with this, I realized I had never really thanked God for all the work he had done in my creation. I was overcome as I thought of how God had made plans for my life long before I was born. -- Ingrid Trobisch, *The Confident Woman*. Christianity Today, Vol. 41, no. 13.

PRAY: Thank God for creating you and planning your life before you were born. Thank Him for His Spirit that carries those plans out the way He would have them.

DAY 5

That He would grant you ... to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man. Eph 3:16

When the atmospheric pressure on the outside of an object is greater than its inside resistance, it collapses under the strain. A corresponding principle applies in

the spiritual realm, as illustrated by the following story: One time a Congressman voted in favor of a measure he knew was wrong. He did so for the sake of expediency even though his better judgment and the dictates of his conscience told him he was making a mistake. Later a friend voiced keen disappointment at the position he had taken on the issue. "Your action cannot be justified," he said, "and I am sure you knew you were in error." The lawmaker replied, "Well, yes, it really was not right for me to support that bill, but you just have no idea how much pressure is brought to bear upon us here at the Capitol!" "Pressure!" said his friend. "but congressman, where were your inside braces?"

To answer that is to explain many of the problems that face our world today. Where indeed are the moral and ethical principles of the past? More important, where are the spiritual braces? As Christians, we face many trying situations in life that require moral and spiritual courage. The pressure at times becomes extremely great. Only as we rely upon the Lord and his Word can we expect to be "strengthened with might ... in the inner man." The Holy Spirit will enable us to remain true and steadfast when evil influences bear down upon us.

Think less of the power of things over you and more of the power of Christ in you!

PRAY: Ask God to give you strong inner braces where you need them most. Tell Him where you need them and depend on Him to provide them when the need arises.

7. HE IS THE CREATOR & SUSTAINER OF ALL

Holy Spirit active agent in Creation of Universe

Gen 1:2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

***Job 33:4 The Spirit of God has made me;
the breath of the Almighty gives me life.***

BROODING DOVE

Gen 1:2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

PICTURE OF HOLY SPIRIT

Dove the only bird to not have a gall bladder – no bitterness in it

-Holy Spirit came on Jesus at baptism in form of dove

Matt 3:16-17 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. 17 And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.

DOVE -brings peace to our soul

-comes quietly, without fanfare

-establishes a personal relationship with us

-produces gentleness within, not a harsh and critical spirit

-leads us toward purity, honesty and a truly 'harmless' life

(Noah's Ark dove not land on decay, came back to boat while raven OK on decay remains)

-brings God's divine approval that we are indeed His children

-leads us toward a beautiful, grace-filled Christian life

FINGER OF GOD

Luke 11:20 But if I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come to you.

God so much greater than Satan only takes a FINGER to defeat him!

Ps 8:3-6 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, 4 what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? 5 You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. 6 You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet:

artist uses hands, fingers to create work of art (painting, sculpture, etc)

Holy Spirit created whole universe that way

Anthropomorphic language – describing God in human terms

VOICE OF THE LORD

Heb 11:3 By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

Implied – same as Genesis ***“and God said”***

Holy Spirit also part of bringing physical world out of nothing

We need to listen to voice of God in our lives today

BREATH OF LIFE

Ezek 37:9 Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to it, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe into these slain, that they may live.’”

ALSO CALLED

Breath of God Job 27:3

Breath of Life Rev 11:11

Breath of the Lord Isa 40:7

Breath of Your Nostrils Ps 18:15

Gen 2:7 the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

Holy Spirit the One implanting life in man

-like in waters Gen 1:1

-like in Mary Mt 1:18

BREATH OF THE ALMIGHTY

Job 32:8 But it is the spirit in a man, the breath of the Almighty, that gives him understanding.

Job 33:4 The Spirit of God has made me; the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

ELIHU speaking to Job realizes that without God’s Spirit/breath life wouldn’t have been created or sustained

SPIRIT OF CREATION

Ps 104:29-30 When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to the dust. 30 When you send your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth.

PSALM 104 praise God for His creation

SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF CREATION IN WHICH HOLY SPIRIT WAS INVOLVED

1. CREATION OF ORDER

Isa 40:12-14 Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, or with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens? Who has held the dust of the earth in a basket, or weighed the mountains on the scales and the hills in a balance? Who

has understood the mind of the LORD, or instructed him as his counselor? Whom did the LORD consult to enlighten him, and who taught him the right way? Who was it that taught him knowledge or showed him the path of understanding?

Holy Spirit measured, calculated, weighed parts of the world as He brought it into existence
Designed the order out of chaos

2. CREATION OF DESIGN

Job 26:13 By his breath the skies became fair; his hand pierced the gliding serpent.

‘gliding serpent’ – commentators feel refers to Milky Way (much in Job about stars)
Holy Spirit behind design in universe

Psalms 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God.

3. CREATION OF BEAUTY

Job 26:13 By his breath the skies became fair; his hand pierced the gliding serpent.

Not JUST engineer or architect, also landscape engineer, interior decorator, etc
Universe not just functional, but also full of BEAUTY – God’s love for us seen
Holy Spirit had part in creating the beauty of the universe

4. CREATION OF LIFE

Job 33:4 The Spirit of God has made me; the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

BREATHE life into waters, ground to make man, Messiah into Mary
Formed clay into man, like great POTTER

5. PRESERVATION OF CREATION

Psalms 104:29-30 When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to the dust. 30 When you send your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth.

Not just make original creation, but keep it going
Done by Father and Son, but also by Holy Spirit
Continual renewing and sustaining of life on earth
Miracle how in spring all flowers, insects, animals still alive, etc – Holy Spirit behind that
Sends rain, sun, seasons, etc., to renew earth

6. RENEWAL OF CREATION

Romans 8:21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.

When Jesus returns all sin gone, curse gone, creation returned to Garden of Eden conditions
Holy Spirit behind that work
Holy Spirit currently involved of renewing people when sin’s power gone, new creation in Christ

RE-CREATIVE WORK OF THE SPIRIT IN OUR LIVES

2 Cor 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

Holy Spirit recreates our lives after salvation

1. PRINCIPLE OF SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

God breathes His **BREATH OF LIFE** on us and gives us new life (like waters, man, Mary)

BROODING DOVE Fertile egg won't hatch into life unless parent bird keeps evenly warming it during incubation period – Holy Spirit to unbeliever to bring to point of salvation, then spiritual growth

2. PRINCIPLE OF SPIRITUAL STANDARDS

FINGER OF GOD implies standards (10 commandments, writing on wall of Daniel)
Absolutes (Christian world view)

3. PRINCIPLE OF THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

Eph 6:17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

"SWORD": The only offensive weapon (prayer, next verse, is the other weapon we have but that isn't listed as a weapon the way the sword is in this soldier analogy). All the other pieces of equipment are defensive and for protection. It is only through the offensive weapons, Bible study and prayer, that we can forge ahead and defeat Satan. These weapons don't work until the previous ones are taken care of, though, because if we have a way to be defeated Satan will seize the initiative and we will be driven back instead of driving him back.

"OF THE SPIRIT": ANY weapon used in the flesh will not prosper. Peter used the sword of his flesh and cut Malchus' ear, but on Pentecost he used the sword of the Spirit and thousands of ears were won and opened for Christ. The best defense is a good offense.

"WORD OF GOD": Jesus, the living Word (John 1:1-14), is behind the Bible, the written Word. You need to know God's Word in detail, with much of it memorized, so you can really use this weapon. Jesus won His battles when Satan tempted Him by quoting Scriptures. That is how we are to win, too.

4. PRINCIPLE OF THE LEADING OF THE SPIRIT

If we recognize the principle of the spiritual standards and the Sword of the Spirit, we will want to follow the leading of the Spirit in our lives through His witness within and through the clear teaching of the Bible.

Holy Spirit does use godly counsel from others, unique circumstances, etc.

5. PRINCIPLE OF SPIRITUAL INTERVENTION

no world if God hadn't initiated it, intervened, and created it
all would still be chaos if Holy Spirit not bring order, beauty, etc.

Spiritually He intervenes in our lives to bring order, beauty, life, etc.

That's how and why we as Christians change after salvation – Holy Spirit within

DAILY DEVOTIONS
WEEK 8

DAY 1

2 Tim 3:16-17 *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

Even though Old and New Testaments combine to form one book, that one book is a library of 66 books written by some 40 human authors over a period of about 1,500 years. The 66 books have since been broken down into 1,189 chapters and 31,173 verse divisions. In one translation someone has computed 773,692 words and 3,566,480 letters.

It's easy to get lost in the details of Bible study. For that reason, we continually need to remind ourselves that the purpose of the Bible is not to make us experts in mideast culture or in Christian doctrine (as important as both are). The purpose of the Bible is to enable us to know God, to know ourselves, and to equip us not only with a knowledge of the past but with the ability to live life today.

God's Spirit, Who wrote the Bible, is ready and willing to guide you into a knowledge of the truth of the Bible. Just ask Him. Your Bible knowledge is increasing, but remember that the purpose of the bible is not to increase your knowledge but to increase your Christ-likeness.

PRAY: Ask God to use His Spirit to apply the Bible truths you know to your life. Allow Him to bring them to mind so you can apply them. Where do you need to begin?

DAY 2

2 Peter 1:21 *For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.*

William Bradford, the governor of the Plymouth Colony of pilgrims, insisted, "Those who believe in the Holy Scriptures are bound to observe its teachings. Those who do not are to be bound by its consequences."

A scarlet highway runs through the whole territory of the Bible, which makes it a crimson Book. Threaded all through the rope used by the British Navy is a thin red cord, so that no matter where it is cut into, identity of ownership is immediately established. Thus is it with the Bible: open where you may, you will find the blood-red

cord, for it has been sprinkled with blood (Heb. 9:19,20).

Mentally trace this red cord from Genesis 1 through Revelation 22. When and where did this thread touch your life and apply this salvation to you?

PRAY: Thank God for the Bible and the plan of salvation it clearly reveals. Ask Him to always keep you mindful of the message of the Bible – salvation is only in Jesus. Think of someone He would want you to share this message with and pray about how and when you should go about it.

DAY 3

John 16:13 *But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.*

Sam was my best dog, ever. A field trial dog who found birds and pointed them with contagious enthusiasm, Sam taught me the joy of becoming part of nature. If his point said a bird was hiding in a clump of bushes, it was there. He was so much more than a bird dog, though. Often we'd share together lazy lunches in an abandoned apple orchard, and the snooze that followed. Late one afternoon, Sam and I became separated. Neither of us was familiar with the area. I called and whistled. No sign of Sam. I had to get back to town for an important appointment. But how could I leave Sam? If he finally came back and I wasn't there, would I lose him for good? Then I remembered a trick an old dog trainer had passed on. I unbuttoned my jacket, removed my shirt and laid it on the ground under the branches of a small bush. I worried all night.

But when I returned the next morning there was Sam curled up with his nose under the sleeve of my shirt. He looked up and wagged his tail. "Where've you been friend?" his eyes seemed to say. "I've been waiting for you all night. But I knew you'd come back." Later I wondered. When I get lost, do I have the trust to look for some part of God's word and curl up in it? To wait patiently, knowing that my Friend will find me if I just have faith in him?

PRAY: What portion of scripture do you need to curl up with today? Comfort?

Encouragement? Conviction? Wisdom?
Guidance? ???

DAY 4

Eph 1:17 I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning's parents disapproved so strongly of her marriage to Robert that they disowned her. Almost weekly, Elizabeth wrote love letters to her mother and father, asking for a reconciliation. They never once replied. After ten years of letter writing, Elizabeth received a huge box in the mail. She opened it. To her dismay and heartbreak, the box contained all of her letters to her parents. Not one of them had ever been opened!

Today those love letters are among the most beautiful in classical English literature. Had her parents opened and read only a few of the them, a reconciliation might have been effected. The Bible is God's letter of reconciliation to us. We should open and read it thoroughly and often.

Open your Bible now and spend some time reading is as a love letter from God to you. What difference does it make reading it that way?

PRAY: Thank God for His love letter to you. Ask Him to have His Spirit reveal to your heart His great love for you. Thank Him for that love. Think of it all day long.

DAY 5

Acts 17:11 Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

Our plane was racing down the runway, preparing to take off from Nashville - and I was so exhausted that I was already drifting off into la-la land. Then came those jolts as the front wheels left the ground. My Team Member Rick said, "Have you ever felt anything like that before?" I said no - and dozed off. Well, I wasn't asleep for long - the flight attendant suddenly was announcing that we had blown a rear tire on takeoff and we were heading back to Nashville. For the next 45 minutes or so, we were circling

the area, burning up as much fuel as possible for what could be a crash landing. I called my wife from the plane and asked her to get people praying, and then I joined Rick in committing this whole situation to the Lord.

The flight attendants went into emergency mode to begin to prepare us for the landing. They demonstrated how to brace for the landing. They had us pull out our emergency instruction card from the pocket in front of us - something they had asked us to do before we took off - something hardly anyone did. But as the attendant began her briefing she prefaced it with a simple exhortation - "This time I want you to really listen." Believe me, everyone did.

What Scriptures are you so used to hearing that you don't really pay attention when you hear them? Think of them, quote them from memory or read them in your Bible as if you were hearing them for the first time and as if your life depended on them (it does).

PRAY: Ask God, through His Spirit, to always keep His Word fresh and real to your heart and life. Ask Him to reveal it to you as if you were hearing it for the first time.

8. HE IS THE AUTHOR OF THE BIBLE

I. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE AUTHOR OF THE BIBLE

GOD REVEALS SELF IN

1. Nature (Romans 1; Psalm 19)
2. Bible

"Bible" = Gk for "book"

OT = 39 books

NT = 27 books

Total 66 books

"Testament" = "Agreement"

OT
Jews
Law

NT
Jesus
Grace

OLD TESTAMENT

Pentateuch: Gen-Dt

History: Joshua - Ezra

Poetry: Job - Song of Solomon

Prophets Major: Isa - Dan

Minor: Hosea - Malachi

NEW TESTAMENT

Gospels: Mt - Jn

History: Acts

Epistles: Romans-Jude

Prophecy: Revelation

WRITING: 40 writers, 1500 years

CLAIMS OF INSPIRATION Hebrews 1:1-2; 2:3-4, II Timothy 3:16-17, II Peter 1:19-21, John 10:34-35, I Peter 1:10-12, II Samuel 23:1-2

INSPIRATION: "God-breathed"

God working thru human writers so that what they write is without error

-What to include

-What to omit

-Assure accuracy

REVELATION: disclosing to others what was before unknown to them

Possible, Necessary

ALL Bible inspired

Only parts revealed (creation, 10 comm, tab, Rev

ILLUMINATION: God showing us the truth of His word when we read/study it

Apocrypha: between OT & NT, RC Bible

Pseudepigraphy: after NT

Chapters: Stephen Langton 1228

Verses: Robert Stephanus 1551

1 Peter 1:10-13 *Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, 11 trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. 12 It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.*

OT prophets didn't see things as clearly as we do

-1 coming of Messiah, not 2 (2 mt peaks, not one)

-wrote things then sat back & tried to figure out what they meant

Peter encourages readers to read what Holy Spirit revealed to OT prophets as they wrote

It came from heaven, from God, where He was

INSPIRER

2 Tim 3:16-17 *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

"Inspired" = lit. God-breathed Greek theopneustos

Words of Scripture 'breathed out' by God – HS is breath of God breathed out

2 Peter 1:21 For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man,

but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

carried along = picked up and carried, by Holy Spirit

man WOULD not write the Bible (condemns man as sinful)

man COULD not write the Bible (don't know about God, heaven, hell, Trinity, eternity)

THE SPIRIT OF THE HOLY GOD

Dan 4:8 *Finally, Daniel came into my presence and I told him the dream. (He is called Belteshazzar, after the name of my god, and the spirit of the holy gods is in him.)*

Dan 4:9 *I said, "Belteshazzar, chief of the magicians, I know that the spirit of the holy gods is in you, and no mystery is too difficult for you. Here is my dream; interpret it for me.*

By Nebuchadnezzar when only Daniel could tell his dreams and visions

50 years later Belshazzar remembered same thing (Dan 11)

Dan 5:11 *There is a man in your kingdom who has the spirit of the holy gods in him. In the time of your father he was found to have insight and intelligence and wisdom like that of the gods. King Nebuchadnezzar your father-your father the king, I say-appointed him chief of the magicians, enchanters, astrologers and diviners.*

THE SPIRIT OF REVELATION

Eph 1:17 *I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.*

Revealed truth to apostles and prophets who preached and wrote it down

'revelation' = 'uncovering'

Paul prayed that same Holy Spirit who revealed truth to him as he wrote would help readers uncover (understand) the message he wrote.

THE WIND

2 Peter 1:21 For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Picture of SHIP moved by wind – how Holy Spirit moved writers

Holy Spirit 'blew' human writers of books in certain directions as they wrote

THE SPIRIT OF THE PROPHETS

1 Cor 14:32 The spirits of prophets are subject to the control of prophets.

'spirits of the prophets' = prophetic Spirit in the prophets

But Bible writers not robots – Holy Spirit never forced against personality of writer

Human personality of writer showed through but still inspired

THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY

Rev 19:10 At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "Do not do it! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

Marriage Supper of the Lamb announced to John

Holy Spirit reveals Jesus in the Scriptures - Read Bible asking Holy Spirit to reveal Jesus to you

THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH

John 14:16-17 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever-the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

John 16:13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

Holy Spirit is God, thus TRUE

That's part of being HOLY Spirit is that He is truth

Doesn't speak of self, focuses on Jesus

ILLUMINATION – work of Holy Spirit in us as we read/study Bible

Satan and demons are lying, deceiving spirits

Mislead by masquerading as the Spirit of God

Thus we must 'test the spirits' (1 John 4:1-4) – ask them what they believe about Jesus

The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet, it runs after me; it has hands, it lays hold of me. Martin Luther

II. HOW KNOWING AUTHOR HELPS INTERPRET THE BIBLE

Nothing is more dangerous than to put a wedge between the Word and the Spirit, to emphasize either one at the expense of the other. It is the Spirit and the Word, the Spirit upon the Word, and the Spirit in us as we read the Word.

THE PRINCIPLE OF THE AUTHOR/GOD

If believe Bible is inspired Word of God will approach it differently than if just see it as old lit
Before reading always ask Author, Holy Spirit, to help teach His book to you

If have author of book sitting with you while reading book want to ask Him questions

Ps 119:18 Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.

THE PRINCIPLE OF THE AUTHOR/TEACHER

Most books today are by those who teach – compile notes into book form

When teacher assigns a book he has written as text, read it differently than pick up at library

Instead read it thoughtfully, eager to understand every word

Read Bible as students read teacher's textbook

- read Bible before reading books about the Bible
- read with open mind, as if for first time, drop all preconceived ideas
- read carefully, thoughtfully, as if one Paul (etc) wrote it to
- notice precise words Holy Spirit chose to use and ask Him why

Acts 17:11 Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

'examine' = investigate, inquire, scrutinize, sift

background: sifting of chaff from the grain

THE PRINCIPLE OF THE AUTHOR/FRIEND

When we read a book written by a friend we want to read all of it, every day

Then read it again

Every part important, all parts teach something about Jesus

When read a book by a friend want to make sure we don't miss any parts, misinterpret it, etc

When read a book by a friend want to think of friend while reading it, talk @ it with him,
mull over it, meditate on it, etc.

THE PRINCIPLE OF THE AUTHOR/HELPER

Sometimes go to good seminar, stumble upon special speaker or book, hear someone on

James Dobson, etc – want to get all of their stuff you can, read & digest it

Read those books/listen to those tapes differently

Not detached, etc

But personally involved, how does this apply to me, stop & mull it over, make notes,

Reread and apply notes, pray about things, etc

Take this as if personally being counseled by author of books/tapes

Holy Spirit key to understanding and applying all of this

DAILY DEVOTIONS

WEEK 9

DAY 1

2 Thess 2:7 For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the One who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way.

We are familiar with the electronic tags attached to clothing and other items for the purpose of detecting shoplifters. If this device is tampered with in any way, or if someone tries to steal an item from the store, a loud bell sounds and the thief is caught in the very act of committing his crime.

Sin always sounds an alarm in the ears of God. Nothing escapes His attention. He notes every disobedient thought, word, and deed. The only way to avoid being caught by the alerting "tag" is to shun all forms of evil and resist every temptation. Otherwise God's "condemning bell" will ring -- if not in this life, then in the day of judgment.

Listen for God's alarm ringing in your heart now. Is His Spirit pointing out any sin to your conscience?

PRAY: Confess any sin that is being pointed out in your life (1 John 1:9). Put it under the blood of Jesus. Ask God to keep showing you whenever you even come close to committing a sin. Ask Him to convict you loudly and clearly so you can keep clean from sin. Thank Him for His Spirit that does this work, or we'd always live in sin.

DAY 2

John 16:6-11 But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. 8 When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment:

9 in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; 10 in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; 11 and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

As an Indian evangelist was preaching, a flippant youth interrupted him. "You tell me about the burden of sin. I feel none. How heavy is it? Eighty pounds? Ten pounds?" The preacher answered: "Tell me, if you laid four hundred pounds' weight on a corpse, would it feel the load?" "No, because it is dead," replied the youth. The preacher said: "That spirit, too, is dead which feels no load of sin."

Thank God that He does convict you of sin, that you do feel a load. If you don't feel any load of sin, ask Him to make your spirit alive so you can feel and remove your sin.

PRAY: Ask God to remove any load of sin you feel, then accept His forgiveness (Psalm 103). Thank Him that you can have your sins removed. Be alert to when you feel the load of sin, then confess it and remove it.

DAY 3

Mark 3:29 But whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; he is guilty of an eternal sin."

Late in the last century a great fire gained the upper hand in Virginia's famous jungle, the Dismal Swamp. Careless hunters caused it. The fire gained rapid headway, the undergrowth and frost-bitten shrubbery being devoured by the greedy flames. Clouds of dense smoke covered the horizon. So wide-sweeping was the fiery storm that hundreds of animals, bear, fox, deer, and multitudes of

smaller animals were driven out of the jungle to be slaughtered by eager hunters.

That is what the Holy Spirit does in the life of one whom He is convicting. It could be an unbeliever, who needs salvation. It may be a believer, who needs reviving. In each case He moves through, sweeping out all sin, hidden and otherwise, before Him. When these sins are driving into the light they can be destroyed by the redeeming grace of Jesus Christ.

PRAY: Ask God to do this work in your heart this day. Ask Him to bring to light every hidden sin, to drive it out so it can be destroyed by the blood of Jesus.

DAY 4

Heb 9:13-14 The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. 14 How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

Men often judge spiritual power by outward display and noisy demonstrations, but the silent forces of the Holy Spirit are little understood or appreciated. Yet through them the Lord does His mighty and important work. The silent way is God's way! It is predominant in all of the great operations of nature and grace. Gravitation works silently; and the greatest trees grow noiselessly. Evaporation, which takes up three billion tons of water every minute – enough to supply all the rivers of the world – works quietly. God's spiritual power too is best displayed not in the fire and in the earthquake, but in the "still small voice." To His humble, yet willing servants here below, God "increases strength" (Isaiah 40:29) and despite their weakness, unleashes through them the silent force of His omnipotence!

Workmen in stone quarries often find a very hard kind of rock which is extremely difficult to break. They pick little grooves in it for iron wedges, and then with great sledge hammers seek by these to crack the flinty material. Yet many times they still find it impossible to divide the solid mass. Then there is only one thing left to do. The iron shims are removed, and little wooden ones of a very hard fiber are inserted. These are first thoroughly moisturized, and after they have been inserted, water is constantly kept upon them. No sledge then is needed to drive them further into the resisting stone, for eventually these fiber wedges do what the driven iron chisels never could accomplish. The damp wood swells and the granite heart of the rock, unable to withstand the silent influence, bursts asunder! So in the spiritual realm what noise and visible effort often fails to do, the quiet power of the Holy Spirit accomplishes. Oh, for a deeper understanding and appreciation of the silent forces of God!

Is there a sin, a habit, a pattern in your life that God is silently working on to break? Can you feel His Spirit gently but firmly moving against it until it gives way and breaks?

PRAY: Thank Him for His silent but steady work to break you of sin's hold in your life. Ask Him to continue that work. Maybe there is a loved one you have been praying for whose heart seems hard to sin. Pray that God's Spirit would gently but firmly break that hardness and reveal their sin so they can accept God's free gift of salvation.

9. HE VALIDATES SALVATION

I. FROM GOD'S SIDE

THE ETERNAL SPIRIT

Heb 9:13-14 The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. 14 How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

Holy Spirit's priestly role in intercession for the unsaved.

OT, priest took blood of animal and offer it to God for atonement (picture of coming atonement)
Holy Spirit does same thing, in effect offering work of Jesus on cross for unbeliever's forgiveness

As God the Father, Holy Spirit without beginning or end

Us can't comprehend, live within limits of time and space, finite minds can't understand
God alone is "from everlasting to everlasting" Psalm 90:2

ETERNAL – Jesus died at one specific point on time line of history but work affected every moment in time from eternity past to eternity future

BEFORE CRUCIFIXION – sins temporarily set aside until paid for

"The Lamb that was slain from the foundation of the world" Rev 13:8

(throw rug illustration)

AFTER CRUCIFIXION – all sins covered by work in past on cross

ETERNAL = greater than death, superior to death

Death of Jesus at one moment in time has eternal consequences

PAST – lamb slain from the foundation of the world

FUTURE – results continue forever, never fade or run out

RESULTS TO US:

cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death

psychologists, etc, pay anything for guilt gone, clean conscience

ONLY way it would happen is by salvation

so that we may serve the living God!

When enslaved to sin couldn't serve the living God, now we can!

THE GIFT OF GOD

Acts 2:38 *Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

Eph 4:10-11 *It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers,*

John 4:10 *Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."*

Acts 8:20 *Peter answered: "May your money perish with you, because you thought you could buy the gift of God with money!*

Holy Spirit as the gift of eternal life to the unsaved
GIFT freely given, nothing to earn or deserve it

THE SPIRIT OF HIM WHO RAISED UP JESUS

Rom 8:10-11 *And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.*

Jesus didn't use His own power for resurrection, but let HOLY SPIRIT do it

We don't have power of our own to bring self back to life, must let same Spirit do it

If He did it to Jesus, with all our sins, will do it to us, too.

As Jesus physically rose from dead, we will one day physically rise, too
-at Rapture (alive or bodies if already dead)

HOLY SPIRIT WITHIN ASSURES US THAT WE WILL BE RAISED, TOO

Rom 8:23 *Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.*

JEWISH FEAST OF FIRSTFRUITS when first crops ripened, taken to temple/God

1. reminded them that everything they had came from God alone, thank Him
2. demonstrated faith in future coming greater harvest, complete and full, total

Holy Spirit in us like that

What we receive from Holy Spirit now great! – but only foretaste of full harvest to come
Full harvest – with God in heaven

Holy Spirit within now a guarantee that 'this is just the start, much greater coming'
These bodies age, weaken – coming future body much greater than this!

II. FROM MAN'S SIDE

HOW THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS IN SALVATION

PRECONVERSION	CONVERSION	POSTCONVERSION
RESTRAIN II Thes 2:7 REPROVE, CONVICT John 16:7-10	REGENERATION Titus 3:5 INDWELLING I Cor 6:19 SEALING Eph 4:30	FULLNESS Eph 5:18 SANCTIFICATION II Cor 3:18 ILLUMINATION I Cor 2:12 PRAYER Romans 8:26-27

RESTRAIN

2 Thess 2:7 For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the One who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way.

Like a CROSSING GUARD that protects children on their way to elementary school, he helps by holding back harm and danger

Like when a PARENT enters room and sits quietly in the back – children act better

As bad as world is, would be much worse without HS
– like in TRIBULATION when HS removed at rapture

REPROVE, CONVICT

John 16:6-11 But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. 8 When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: 9 in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; 10 in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; 11 and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

Like a PROSECUTING ATTORNEY who helps the state prove a case of wrongdoing

People must realize they are LOST before can be SAVED
HS convicts people of their sins

“CONVICT” = (Latin) ‘cause to see’ – to see our sin & need of Him

9 in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me;

convicts of SIN – which they are guilty of since they don't believe in Jesus
greatest sin – not believing in Jesus

10 in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer;

convicts of RIGHTEOUSNESS – man unrighteous compared to Holy Jesus/God
HE is our standard, the one we are to measure self against – always fail

11 and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

Convicts of JUDGMENT – sin judged on cross, Satan defeated
ALL sin deserves judgment, none worse than any other, none less than any other
If not accept judgment on cross, will pay for own sin ourselves

Holy spirit like a REAL ESTATE AGENT – shows benefits, convinces of need and this meets it, shows how to make it theirs (where to sign)

CONSEQUENCES OF RESISTING THE HOLY SPIRIT'S CONVICTION

Mark 3:29 But whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; he is guilty of an eternal sin."

Attributing the works of Jesus, as Holy Spirit reveals Him and convicts of sin,
to power of Satan

Only sin that keeps man from heaven is UNBELIEF

All other sins paid for on cross

APPLICATION TO BELIEVERS:

On rare occasions, we hear of people who are convicted of crimes they have not committed. After they are arrested, they are identified by an eyewitness. On the strength of that eyewitness account, a jury finds them guilty and they are sentenced. Sometimes other evidence later reveals the eyewitness' mistake and the conviction is reversed.

In such cases, the convicted person never admits his or her guilt. To do so would be a lie! But when a person is convicted of sin by the Holy Spirit, it is a different story. First of all, the Holy Spirit never makes a mistake. So if the Holy Spirit convicts you of sin, you are guilty! Not only so, you also admit your guilt. You see, conviction by the Holy Spirit involves how you feel in your heart.

When King David sinned by committing adultery with Bathsheba, he had her husband murdered to cover up his adultery. But God used Nathan the prophet to convict David of his sin. David threw himself on the mercy of God and cried, "Create in me a clean heart, Oh God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Thy presence, and do not take Thy Holy Spirit from me" (Psalm 51:10-11). David sinned. But when the Holy Spirit convicted him, he fell before God to beg forgiveness. David wanted a right relationship with God. You see, conviction by the Holy Spirit not only involves admitting your guilt, it also compels you to turn away from your sin with a desire to lead a new life.

DAILY DEVOTIONS

WEEK 10

DAY 1

Eph 2:5, 8 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions-it is by grace you have been saved. ... For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith-and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-

After hearing the gospel explained, people often say, "You mean there's nothing I can do to deserve it? That's too easy." It seems natural for people to object to the idea that God's unmerited favor can be given so freely to unworthy sinners. Many find it difficult to trust a God who offers salvation as a free gift.

Bible teacher G. Campbell Morgan told of a coal miner who came to him and said, "I would give anything to believe that God would forgive my sins, but I cannot believe that He will forgive them if I just ask Him. It is too cheap." Morgan said, "My dear friend, have you been working today?" "Yes, I was down in the mine." "How did you get out of the pit? Did you pay?" "Of course not. I just got into to cage and was pulled to the top." "Were you not afraid to entrust yourself to that cage? Was it not too cheap?" Morgan asked. "Oh no," said the miner, "it was cheap for me, but it cost the company a lot of money to sink the shaft." Suddenly the truth struck him. What had not cost him anything -- salvation -- had not come cheap to God. This miner had never thought of the great price God paid to send His Son so He could rescue fallen humanity. Now he realized that all anyone had to do was to "get into the cage" by faith.

Salvation is a free gift. Planned by God the Father (Eph 1:3-6), Paid for by God the Son (Eph 1:7-12) and Applied by God the Holy Spirit (Eph 1:13-14).

PRAY: Thank God for your free salvation. Pray for someone you know who

needs this free gift. Ask for God's Spirit to minister to them so they see their need for salvation.

DAY 2

Eph 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

The trucking industry has an interesting example of the sealing of the Spirit. When a truck is fully loaded and ready for its run, a plastic seal is put around the lock on the door. This seal cannot be broken before the truck reaches its destination without the penalty off loss of one's job. This is similar to the sealing of the Spirit. The seal of the Spirit cannot be broken before the Christian reaches his heavenly destination.

PRAY: Thank God for your guarantee of salvation. Make sure you have no fear or doubts about the future. You're as good as in heaven already – praise Him for that!

DAY 3

Rom 8:2 because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.

One day I was in my office, when my old friend Jack dropped by. He was in a desperate situation, had just been through a divorce, and owed a \$50,000 debt, due in a few days or his house and assets would be seized. On top of that, he had lost his job and didn't even have enough money for daily necessities. Because I loved Jack, I decided to do two things:

I offered Jack a job. I told him that at least he would have some income for daily necessities. I offered to loan Jack the \$50,000. I said, "Jack, I do have \$50,000 but it is my entire life savings. I am willing to loan it to you if you promise to pay me back. When you get your paycheck you can begin to make

me some kind of payments." Jack was thrilled and promised to do so. Jack made a few payments and then the problem began. I don't know what Jack does with his money but he certainly didn't fulfill his promise to pay me. How do you tend to act around someone, when you owe them and don't pay them or can't pay them? Do you call them up on the telephone and say, "Let's have lunch! or Let's play golf tomorrow!" No, you do everything possible to avoid them. In other words, you don't want to hang around a person to whom you owe a debt. Jack couldn't look me in the face. So one day he just didn't show up for work. I later heard that he had taken a boat late at night and had gone to South America. I like Jack and wish we could be friends. In fact, I would like to have him work for me again.

Cliff, another friend of both Jack and myself had heard about the \$50,000 that had ruined our relationship. Being a wealthy man, Cliff offered to pay Jack's debt so that we might be reconciled. So he paid me and the debt is cleared. Now as far as my "accounts receivable" is concerned, it is clear. The problem is, Jack doesn't know it. So Debbie, another friend of ours, gets on a boat and goes to South America and finds Jack. "Jack," she says, "I've got good news for you! Cliff has paid off your debt, Don has written it off his books, you don't owe a thing! Don says he even wants you to come back and work for him."

Now what are Jack's choices? How many ways can he respond? Jack could say, "No. I don't believe it. It's a trap. Don's just saying that to get me back on U.S. soil so he can have me arrested." Jack could deny he owed the debt. He could say, "Don is a crook and is trying to get money that I don't owe." It is an insult to tell someone to pay a debt that they don't owe. Jack could say, "Really! You mean the debt is over, I can go back to the people that care about me and get on with my life? The answer is "Yes! Come on back."

The point of this parable is this: The gospel message of Jesus Christ is good news. Jesus paid the debt of sin for the whole

human race. But the world doesn't know it. When you pick up a newspaper you are reading about things that have already happened. God has done something that is to be shared as good news. Christ has died for your sins. The burden is not on you to fix the problem. Don't deny the debt of your sins, rather come back to the Saviour that has paid the price to bring you back into friendship with the Living God.

Salvation is an accomplished fact that has already been purchased by the death of the Saviour. Your part is only to "come back" and accept the mercy of a loving Saviour. Can you see that salvation is by Grace? It's all based upon what God has done for you. He has paid the debt of our sins so that we may have eternal life and a right relationship with Him.

Would you like to come back (we've all gone astray), and receive this gift of right standing with God? The Scriptures say, that "they which receive the abundance of grace (God's kindness) and the gift of righteousness (right standing before God) shall reign in life..."(Romans 5:17).

10. HE APPLIES SALVATION

HOW THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS IN SALVATION

PRECONVERSION	CONVERSION	POSTCONVERSION
RESTRRAINT II Thes 2:7 REPROVE, CONVICT John 16:7-10	REGENERATION Titus 3:5 Spirit of Grace Spirit of Faith New Spirit Spirit of Life Spirit of Adoption INDWELLING I Cor 6:19 SEALING Eph 4:30	FULLNESS Eph 5:18 SANCTIFICATION II Cor 3:18 ILLUMINATION I Cor 2:12 PRAYER Romans 8:26-27

REGENERATION

Greek word Tetelestai, which in our version of the Scripture is translated, "It is finished." Archaeologists have repeatedly found its Latin equivalent, consummatum est, scrawled across tax receipts used in those days, indicating it also meant "paid," A renowned Presbyterian professor has conjectured that many standing near the cross probably interpreted the Savior's words as having that connotation. With sin's account settled, our debt of guilt was indeed wiped out!

Titus 3:5-6 He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior,

Holy Spirit is like an INTERIOR DECORATOR who renews an old room, making it new

the washing of rebirth – past sins removed by the blood of Jesus

and renewal by the Holy Spirit – Holy Spirit indwells to give victory over present sin

poured out on us generously – receiving Holy Spirit at moment of salvation

Rebirth = 'regeneration' – technical term for being BORN AGAIN

"Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God" John 3:5

= NEW LIFE -quantity of life – eternal

-quality of life – God's life, not our own

HOLY SPIRIT the one who does this work in us at Salvation

SPIRIT OF GRACE

Eph 2:5, 8 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions-it is by grace you have been saved. ... For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith-and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-

Grace is the unmerited favor of God toward the repentant sinner

God's
Riches
At
Christ's
Expense

Holy Spirit brings us to salvation by grace – He applies the grace to us

The Spirit of Grace is the channel through which God's unmerited favor is applied to the believer at conversion

REJECTING THAT GRACE = JUDGMENT!

Heb 10:26-31

26 If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, 27 but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. 28 Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29 How much more severely do you think a man deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God under foot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified him, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know him who said, "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," and again, "The Lord will judge his people." 31 It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

HEBREWS: Jews who heard about Jesus but wanted to go back to Judaism for salvation

Too late after heard of Jesus

Go back to law, turn back on Spirit of Grace, then under Law with its penalty

ONE DAY ALL ISRAEL WILL REPENT AND TURN TO GOD FOR GRACE

Zech 12:10 "And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.

SAME SPIRIT OF FAITH

2 Cor 4:13 It is written: "I believed; therefore I have spoken." With that same spirit of faith we also believe and therefore speak,

We can't be saved without FAITH (Eph 2:8-9)

Holy Spirit works within us to show us need (convict) and put FAITH in our hearts to respond

Faith a gift of the Holy Spirit (I Cor 12:9)

Also as we grow spiritually and develop our relationship with the Spirit of Faith, we increase in our faith as we live by the faith of God (Rom 1:17; Gal 2:20)

Rom 1:17 *For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."*

Gal 2:20 *I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*

A NEW SPIRIT

Ezek 11:19 *I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them; I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh.*

In the act of salvation God makes us a new creation, thru Holy Spirit

OT prophets looked forward to day when salvation complete

Jeremiah about new covenant

Hosea, Micah, etc day when God's forgiveness complete

Amos, Zechariah, etc saw this as time when Israel regathered, Messiah on throne

Ezekiel tells about that time

heart of stone = hard, unresponsive to God

heart of flesh = soft, sensitive to God (Holy Spirit working within)

VISUAL: paper tear – broken heart by sin restored whole by Holy Spirit

Hebrews 8-10 says those coming blessings for Israel are now ours in Jesus

Still will be fulfilled in them later, now ours

We cannot change our own hearts/nature, no one can change us, God will do it!

Does it by LEAVING old heart (sin nature)

ADDING NEW HEART (Holy Spirit in at moment of salvation)

HOLY SPIRIT 'CIRCUMCISES' OUR HEART TO MAKE IT NEW

Rom 2:29

29 *No, a man is a Jew if he is one inwardly; and circumcision is circumcision of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the written code. Such a man's praise is not from men, but from God.*

(this also mentioned in Philippians 3:3; Col 2:22-12)

circumcision – cutting away of the flesh

physically on penis

spiritually softening hard heart

physical circumcision marks a man physically with an outward sign of relationship to God

spiritual circumcision marks a man spiritually with inner sign – desire to love & obey God

NOT going thru motions of circumcision, baptism, church membership, etc
BUT by inner change in heart, brought by God's Spirit

RESULTS OF RECEIVING HOLY SPIRIT AT SALVATION

2 Cor 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

210 Things that are True of Me Now that I am Saved

1. My salvation is fully accomplished - John 19:30.
2. I have eternal life as a present possession - John 5:24; 6:47; 1 John 5:11-13.
3. I have Jesus Christ as my present possession - 1 John 5:12.
4. I know the one, true God - John 17:3; 1 John 2:3; 5:20.
5. I have been saved by His grace - Eph. 2:1-10.
6. I have been justified by His grace - Titus 3:7.
7. I have passed from death unto life - John 5:24; 1 John 3:14.
8. I have been quickened by God - Eph. 2:1,5; Col. 2:13.
9. I have been made fit for heaven - Col. 1:12.
10. I have the forgiveness of sins - Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14.
11. My sins have been taken away - John 1:29; Heb. 9:26; 1 John 3:5.
12. My sins have been completely purged - Heb. 1:3.
13. My sins will never be remembered by God - Heb. 8:12; 10:17.
14. My name is written in the Lamb's Book of Life - Phil. 4:3
15. My life is hid with in God - Col. 3:3
16. I have been forgiven all trespasses - Col. 2:13; 1 John 2:12.
17. I have been fully justified - Rom. 4:5; 8:30; 1 Cor. 6:11; Gal. 2:16; Tit. 3:7.
18. I am reconciled to God - 2 Cor. 5:18,19; Col. 1:20.
19. I am made nigh by the blood of Christ - Eph. 2:13.
20. I am redeemed through His blood - 1 Pet. 1:18,19; Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14.
21. I am redeemed from the curse of the law - Gal. 3:13.
22. I am redeemed from all iniquity - Titus 2:14.
23. I am bought with a price - 1 Cor. 6:20; 7:23.
24. I am delivered from so great a death - 2 Cor. 1:10.
25. I have been delivered from this present evil world - Gal. 1:4.
26. I have been delivered from the power of darkness - Col. 1:13.
27. I have been delivered from the wrath to come - 1 Thess. 1:10.
28. I will not come into condemnation or judgment - John 5:24; Rom. 8:1.
29. I am a child of God - John 1:12; Rom. 8:16; Gal. 3:26; 1 John 3:1,2.
30. I am a son of God - Gal. 4:5-7.
31. I belong to Jesus Christ - Gal. 3:29; 5:24.
32. I have been adopted - Gal. 4:5; Rom. 8:15,23.
33. I am an heir of God and joint-heir with Christ - Rom. 8:17; Tit. 3:7.
34. I am an heir of the grace of life - 1 Pet. 3:7.
35. All things are mine - 1 Cor. 3:21-23.
36. I possess all things - 2 Cor. 6:10.

37. I will inherit all things - Rev. 21:7.
38. I am enriched by Christ in everything - 1 Cor. 1:5; 2 Cor. 9:11.
39. I am a fellow-heir - Eph. 3:6.
40. I am rich because of Christ - 2 Cor. 8:9; Rev. 2:9.
41. I am blessed with every spiritual blessing - Eph. 1:3.
42. I have obtained an inheritance - Eph. 1:11,14; Heb. 1:14; 9:15; 1 Pet. 1:4.
43. I have been appointed to obtain salvation - 1 Thess. 5:9; Heb. 1:14.
44. I am His inheritance - Eph. 1:18.
45. I am a partaker of His promise in Christ by the gospel - Eph. 3:6.
46. I am a new creature in Christ - 2 Cor. 5:17; Eph. 2:10; 4:24; Col. 3:10.
47. I have been renewed by the Holy Spirit - Tit. 3:5.
48. I am accepted and highly favored in the Beloved - Eph. 1:6.
49. I am seated in heavenly places in Christ - Eph. 2:6.
50. I am to the praise of His glory - Eph. 1:6,12.
51. I am light in the Lord - Eph. 5:8.
52. I am a child of light - Eph. 5:8; 1 Thess. 5:5.
53. I am a "peculiar person": God's special, purchased possession - Tit. 2:14; 1 Pet. 2:9.
54. I am a priest who can offer spiritual sacrifices - Heb. 13:15,16; 1 Pet. 2:5,9; Rev. 1:6; 5:10; 20:6.
55. I am a king who will reign - Rev. 1:6; 5:10; 20:6.
56. I am privileged to have fellowship with the Father and with the Son- 1 John 1:3.
57. I dwell in Christ - John 6:56; 1 John 3:24; 4:13,15,16.
58. Christ dwells in me - John 6:56; Gal. 2:20; 1 John 3:24; 4:12-16.
59. I am in Christ - John 14:20; 2 Cor. 5:17.
60. Christ is in me - John 14:20; Col. 1:27; 1 John 4:4.
61. The Spirit of God dwells in me - Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 3:16; Eph. 2:21,22.
62. I am not in the flesh but in the Spirit - Rom. 8:9.
63. My "earthen vessel" houses a great Treasure - 2 Cor. 4:7.
64. My body is the temple of the Holy Spirit - 1 Cor. 6:19.
65. I have the gift and earnest of the Holy Spirit - 2 Cor. 1:22; Gal. 4:6; Eph. 1:13,14; 1 Thess. 4:8; 1 John 3:24; 4:13.
66. I have an anointing (unction) from the Holy One - 1 John 2:20,27.
67. I have an anchor for my soul, both sure and steadfast - Heb. 6:19
68. I am one of the called of Jesus Christ - Rom. 1:6; 8:28-30; Jude 1; Rev. 17:14.
69. I have been called unto the fellowship of God's Son - 1 Cor. 1:9.
70. I have been called unto eternal glory - 1 Pet. 5:10.
71. I have been called with a holy calling - 2 Tim. 1:9.
72. I am a partaker of the high, heavenly calling - Phil. 3:14; Heb. 3:1.
73. I have been called out of darkness into His marvelous light - 1 Pet. 2:9.
74. God foreknew me - Rom. 8:29; 1 Pet. 1:2.
75. God predestined me to be conformed to Christ's image - Rom. 8:29; Eph. 1:5,11.
76. I have already been glorified according to God's mind and purpose - Rom. 8:30.
77. I am eternally secure in God's love - Rom. 8:38,39.
78. I am chosen in Christ - Eph. 1:4; Col. 3:12; 1 Thess. 1:4; 1 Pet. 2:9; Rev. 17:14.
79. I am complete in Christ - Col. 2:10.
80. I am beloved of God - Col. 3:12; 2 Thess. 2:13.
81. I am chastened and disciplined by my Heavenly Father - Heb. 12:6,7.
82. I am part of that group that Christ is not ashamed to call His "brethren" and "friends" - Heb. 2:11; John 15:14,15.
83. I am a child of Abraham - Gal. 3:7.

84. I am Abraham's seed - Gal. 3:29.
85. I enjoy the blessing of Abraham - Gal. 3:9.
86. I am a child of promise - Gal. 4:28,31.
87. I am faithful - Rev. 17:14.
88. I am a sheep in His flock - Luke 12:32; Heb. 13:20; 1 Pet. 2:25.
89. I am a member in His body - 1 Cor. 10:17; Eph. 3:6; 4:25; 5:30.
90. I am a stone in His building - Eph. 2:20-22; Heb. 3:6; 1 Pet. 2:5.
91. I am a branch in His vine - John 15:1-7.
92. I am a child of His kingdom - Matt. 13:38; Mark 10:14,15; Luke 17:21.
93. I am born again into His family - John 1:12,13; James 1:18; 1 Pet. 1:3,23; 2:2; 1 John 5:1.
94. I am one of God's people because He graciously claims me as His own - 1 Pet. 2:10; Rev. 21:7.
95. I am a fellow citizen with the saints - Eph. 2:19.
96. I was baptized into Jesus Christ - Rom. 6:3; 1 Cor. 12:12-13 Gal. 3:27.
97. I was identified with Christ in His death - Rom. 6:3-6,8-11; 2 Cor. 5:14; Col. 2:12,20; 3:3.
98. I was identified with Christ in His resurrection - Rom. 6:5,8,11; 2 Cor. 5:15; Gal. 2:20; Col. 2:12; 3:1.
99. I am dead to sin - Rom. 6:2.
100. My "old man" was crucified with Christ - Rom. 6:6; Gal. 2:20
101. I have crucified the flesh with its affections and lusts - Gal. 5:24.
102. I am alive unto God - Rom. 6:11,13; Gal. 2:19,20.
103. Christ is my life - Phil. 1:21; Col. 3:4.
104. I can walk in newness of life - Rom. 6:4.
105. I can serve in newness of spirit - Rom. 7:6.
106. I can live unto righteousness - 1 Pet. 2:24.
107. I died to the law - Rom. 7:4; Gal. 2:19.
108. I am delivered from the law - Rom. 7:6.
109. I am not under the law but under grace - Rom. 6:14.
110. I have God's laws written in my heart - Heb. 10:16.
111. I am married to Jesus Christ - Rom. 7:4.
112. I am a partaker of Christ - Heb. 3:14.
113. I am identified with Christ in His suffering - 2 Tim. 2:12; Phil. 1:29; 1 Pet. 2:20; 4:12,13; 1 Thess. 3:3; Rom. 8:18; Col. 1:24.
114. The knowledge of God is made known by me - 2 Cor. 2:14.
115. The savor (aroma) of Christ is made known by me - 2 Cor. 2:15,16.
116. I am an epistle of Christ - 2 Cor. 3:3.
117. I am being changed into Christ's glorious image - 2 Cor. 3:18.
118. I am being perfected - Phil. 1:6.
119. My inward man is being renewed day by day - 2 Cor. 4:16.
120. I have put on Christ - Gal. 3:27.
121. I am not of the world - John 17:14,16.
122. The world is crucified unto me - Gal. 6:14.
123. I am crucified unto the world - Gal. 6:14.
124. I am separated unto the gospel of God - Rom. 1:1.
125. I am sanctified in Christ Jesus - 1 Cor. 1:2; 6:11; Heb. 10:10; Jude 1.
126. I am holy - Col. 3:12; Heb. 3:1; 1 Pet. 2:9; Rev. 20:6.
127. I am clothed in His righteousness - Rev. 19:18.
128. I am a saint - 1 Cor. 1:2; Phil. 1:1; Col. 1:2; Rom. 1:7.
129. I am faultless in Christ - Eph. 5:27; Col. 1:22; Jude 24.
130. I am perfected forever - Heb. 10:14.

131. I am not my own - 1 Cor. 6:19.
132. I am called unto holiness - 1 Thess. 4:7.
133. I am a citizen of heaven - Phil. 3:20.
134. I am a stranger and pilgrim who is not at home in this world - Heb. 11:13; 1 Pet. 2:11.
135. I have been translated into the kingdom of the Son of His love - Col. 1:13.
136. I am circumcised in my heart - Col. 2:11; Phil 3:3 (cf. Dt. 10:16).
137. My faithful God will sanctify me wholly - 1 Thess. 5:23,24.
138. My faithful God will keep me from evil - 2 Thess. 3:3; 2 Tim. 4:18.
139. Christ has made me free, free indeed - John 8:32,36; Gal. 5:1; 1 Cor. 7:22.
140. Jesus Christ is my Deliverer - Rom. 7:24,25.
141. I am free from sin - Rom. 6:7,18,22.
142. The law of the Spirit of Life has made me free from the law of sin and death - Rom. 8:2.
143. I am God's servant /slave - Rom. 6:22.
144. I am Christ's servant/slave - 1 Cor. 7:22.
145. I am a servant/slave of righteousness - Rom. 6:18.
146. I have been called unto liberty - Gal. 5:13.
147. I have the mind of Christ - 1 Cor. 2:16.
148. I have a sound mind - 2 Tim. 1:7.
149. Christ has given me an understanding - 1 John 5:20.
150. I have the righteousness of Christ - 2 Cor. 5:21.
151. I have all sufficiency in all things - 2 Cor. 9:8.
152. I have all things that pertain to life and godliness - 2 Pet. 1:3.
153. I can ever be content for I have Christ - Heb. 13:5.
154. I have all the armor and weapons I need - 2 Cor. 10:4; Eph. 6:10-17.
155. I have God's all-sufficient grace - 2 Cor. 12:9.
156. I have grace to help in time of need - Heb. 4:16.
157. I have God's power - Eph. 1:19; 3:20.
158. I have access to the Father - Eph. 2:18; Heb. 4:16.
159. I have a great High Priest - Heb. 2:17,18; 3:1; 4:14-16; 8:1; 10:21.
160. I have an unfailing Intercessor - Heb. 7:25; 9:24; Rom. 8:34.
161. I have a righteous Advocate with the Father for times when I sin - 1 John 2:1.
162. I have peace with God - Rom. 5:1.
163. Christ is my peace - Eph. 2:14.
164. I have rest for my soul - Matt. 11:28,29; Heb. 4:9.
165. I am led by the Spirit of God - Rom. 8:14.
166. I am enabled during trials and temptations - 1 Cor. 10:13.
167. I am given assurance by the Spirit - Rom. 8:16; Heb. 6:18.
168. I am given comfort by God - 2 Cor. 1:3-7.
169. I am tranquilized by His peace - Phil. 4:7.
170. I am freely given truth and knowledge by the Spirit - 1 Cor. 2:12.
171. I am not distressed - 2 Cor. 4:8.
172. I am not in despair - 2 Cor. 4:8.
173. I am not forsaken - 2 Cor. 4:9.
174. I am not in darkness - 1 Thess. 5:4.
175. God is my Sufficiency - 2 Cor. 3:5.
176. God is my Strength - 2 Cor. 12:9,10; Phil. 4:13.
177. God is my Helper - Heb. 13:6.
178. I belong to a Sovereign God who works all things together for my good - Rom. 8:28.
179. All things are for my sake - 2 Cor. 4:15.
180. My God is for me - Rom. 8:31.

181. My every need is supplied - Phil. 4:19.
182. I am a laborer together with Christ - 1 Cor. 3:9; 2 Cor. 6:1.
183. I am His workmanship - Eph. 2:10.
184. God works in me - Phil. 2:13; Heb. 13:21.
185. God's Word works in me - 1 Thess. 2:13.
186. I am sealed by God - 2 Cor. 1:22; Eph. 1:13.
187. I am on the Rock, Christ Jesus - Matt. 16:18; 1 Cor. 3:11.
188. I am established securely in Christ - 2 Cor. 1:21; 2 Thess. 3:3.
189. I am kept by the power of God - 1 Pet. 1:5.
190. I am preserved in Jesus Christ - Jude 1.
191. I am kept from falling - Jude 24.
192. I have a building of God eternal in the heavens - 2 Cor. 5:1.
193. My name is forever written in heaven - Luke 10:20.
194. I am more than a conqueror: a super-conqueror - Rom. 8:37.
195. I have victory through Christ - 1 Cor. 15:57.
196. I have overcome the world - 1 John 5:4,5.
197. I always triumph in Christ - 2 Cor. 2:14.
198. I am indwelt by the victorious Christ who is greater than Satan - 1 John 4:4.
199. Satan cannot touch me - 1 John 5:18.
200. I have a living hope - 1 Pet. 1:3.
201. I have a glorious future - Rom. 8:18; 2 Thess. 2:14.
202. I have been given eternal encouragement and good hope through grace- 2 Thess. 2:16.
203. I will be given a new body just like Christ's glorified body - Phil. 3:20-21.
204. I will be preserved unto His heavenly kingdom - 2 Tim. 4:18.
205. I am receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved - Heb. 12:28.
206. I have a place reserved in heaven for me - John 14:2,3; 1 Pet. 1:4.
207. I will not be hurt of the second death - Rev. 2:11; 20:6.
208. I will have a new name - Rev. 2:17; 3:12.
209. I will sit with Christ in His throne - Rev. 3:21.
210. I will be with my God forever - Rev. 21:3,4.

SPIRIT OF LIFE

Rom 8:2 because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.

BEFORE salvation we are dead in our trespasses and sin (Eph 2:1)

When saved then 'alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord' (Rom 6:11)

The Spirit of Life is what gives us LIFE

Gave life to death at creation (Gen 1:2)

Gave physical life to Jesus' dead body (Rom 8:1-13)

Free – key word, God saves us to give us FREEDOM

Us bound in chains of sin and death, then set free because of Jesus on cross

Holy Spirit is the One who comes with the Key to open the lock and set us free

Freedom is from bondage to sin, not free to sin/do whatever we want

Now free to OBEY, SERVE God, before unable to do that, bound to sin

HOLY SPIRIT BREATHE ON ISRAEL AND ALL COME TO LIFE

Ezek 37:1-10

37:1 The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. **2** He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. **3** He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?"

I said, "O Sovereign LORD, you alone know."

4 Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! **5** This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. **6** I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.'"

7 So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. **8** I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

9 Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe into these slain, that they may live.'" **10** So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet-a vast army.

SPIRIT OF ADOPTION

Rom 8:15 For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."

ADOPTION placed one in family as legal heir, made them a son, thus SONSHIP

WE ARE IN GOD'S FAMILY BY:

BIRTH – regeneration, new birth, born into family

ADOPTION – chosen to be heir, legally made heir

REGENERATION	ADOPTION
Born Again	Placed as Sons
Become a Child	Becoming a Son
Experiential	Legal
Receive God's nature	Receive Rights as Heirs

Can call God FATHER, ABBA (DADDY)

INDWELLING

1 Cor 6:19 *Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own;*

Holy Spirit is like an APARTMENT MANAGER, one who comes to live in the complex to protect it, making sure all the equipment is functioning.

EDEN God walked & talked with man – always His intention
Shekinah Glory among the people
Tabernacle, temple – dwelt in Holy of Holies
Jesus – God dwelling among man
Now dwells IN us
WE are the temple He dwells in, like temple in OT

SEALING

Eph 4:30 *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*

Seal = guarantee (ring in hot wax, like notary public seal)

Holy Spirit in us guarantees God signed our salvation with the blood of Jesus – eternally secure
(more about this in 2 sessions - # 12)

PRINCIPLES ARISING FROM THESE SAVING NAMES

THE PRINCIPLE OF COMPLETE PROVISION

Child goes to camp trusting MOM PACKED ALL HE NEEDED to have good, safe time

God's provision in salvation is complete

Salvation described in 131 different ways – to show how complete God's provision is

THE PRINCIPLE OF FAMILY SECURITY

Shows He is able and willing to complete what He started

Phil 1:6 *being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*

Can't lose salvation – or God loses His nature and character as Savior and Provider

Nothing can separate us from God (Rom 8:33-39)

THE PRINCIPLE OF FAMILY IDENTITY

Pride/confidence in being related to some distant great relative (me William Conqueror general)

As Christians we are in GOD'S family – what could be more special?

THE PRINCIPLE OF CONTINUING SUPPORT

Never alone, always have Holy Spirit there to help and encourage us in all things

DAILY DEVOTIONS

WEEK 11

DAY 1

Acts 2:1-4 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

The Holy Spirit came on the Jewish Feast of Pentecost, which means “50” (Lev 23:16) because it was 50 days after the wave-offering of the “firstfruits” (Lev 23:10,15). Leviticus 23 describes the 7 annual feasts which God declared the people were to observe. These started with the Passover and culminated with the Feast of Tabernacles. They are also symbolic pictures showing the major events of history from eternity past to eternity future.

Pentecost was the middle, the anniversary of the giving of the law on Mount Sinai. That was accompanied by thunder, lightning and smoke (Exodus 19:16-18). When the Holy Spirit came to the upper room, there were fiery tongues and a mighty wind (Acts 2:2-3).

PRAY: Think of the day when God’s Spirit came into you (the day of your salvation). Thank God for that day and for His Spirit indwelling you.

DAY 2

Acts 10:44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.

Donald Barnhouse writes that when he was a boy a group of fellows in his neighborhood formed the Pastime Athletic club. He said it was a big name but didn’t mean much. The boys who started it decided

to initiate other fellows who wanted to join. They wanted to use his house because of its size, but when his parents found out what the initiation was, they wouldn’t let him take part. Thus he couldn’t be part of the group.

There is an initiation that must take place to put us into the Body of Christ. It is called the baptism of the Spirit. There is nothing we must do to qualify, for God does it all for us. The Spirit initiates us into this elite group, all we do is allow Him to do so by stopping rejecting salvation. What a privilege to belong to this group, and we do nothing but accept the benefits!

PRAY: You’re never alone, never rejected, never on the outside. Thank God that you are part of the most special group ever assembled – the Body of Christ. You belong. You are part of the real ‘in’ crowd. Thank and praise God for that.

DAY 3

2 Cor 3:18 And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

A story is told of a party of British sailors who landed on a frozen island in the far north. By accident they set fire to the stunted vegetation, and the flames soon left the island a bare and blackened rock. Some years later another party visited the island and found it covered with a forest of silver birch trees that made the once barren rock “a scene of sylvan loveliness.” The fire had warmed and awakened the slumbering life in the seeds which had lain dormant for years in the grip of the arctic cold. The flames had caused the wilderness to blossom as the rose.

So does the Holy Spirit first purify and then kindle into flame the human heart. When will we learn that Jesus Christ does not destroy? He converts and transforms. He awakens, perfects and glorifies.

PRAY: Sit quiet and still for a few moments, asking God's Spirit to purify your heart, and to set it on fire for God. Ask Him to bring to life His seeds of holiness. Thank Him for doing so.

DAY 4

1 Cor 12:13 For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body-whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free-and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

This is a very important verse about our relationship to the Spirit. The preposition "by" is the Greek *en*, which can take many meanings (by, with, through, etc.), depending on the context, but is most frequently and most naturally rendered simply as "in." the baptism *in* on Spirit is the theme of this passage, teaching us that every one of the "brethren" (v. 1), those who, "speaking by the Spirit of God" have acknowledged Jesus to be their Lord (v. 3) have been "baptized into one body," that body being nothing less than the body of Christ Himself.

This happens in every true believer at the moment of salvation. Notice it is the past tense for it is a one-time event at the moment of salvation. Being 'filled' ('controlled') is something that has to happen repeatedly, but being baptized by the Spirit is a once-in-a-lifetime event at the moment of salvation.

Baptism in the Spirit is a one-time event that places us into the Body of Christ. That makes us part of the Bride of Christ, which defines our unique love-relationship with Him for all eternity. This is only true of believers from the cross to the rapture. What a special privilege we have in this!

PRAY: Meditate on what the future holds for you as you spend all eternity as the Bride of Christ. Thank God for this.

DAY 5

Eph 5:18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.

John the Baptizer was the only person that Jesus referred to as being filled with the Holy Spirit. It was prophesied before he was born that he would be filled with the Holy Spirit from birth (Luke 1:15) as was Jesus (Luke 4:1).

This same power source is available to guide and help us today. John's parents were filled (Luke 1:41, 67), as were the disciples (Acts 2:4; 4:31; 13:52), Peter (Acts 4:8), Stephen (Acts 6:5; 7:55; 11:24), Barnabas (Acts 11:24) and Paul (Acts 9:17; 13:9). One of the qualifications for being a deacon was being filled (Acts 6:3).

The word 'filled' is the same as 'fulfilled' in the Greek. Thus a Christian filled with the Spirit is like a confirmation and accomplishment of a great prediction made concerning him or her by the Lord before the world began, "chosen in Him" to be "holy and without blame before Him in love" (Ephesians 1:4).

PRAY: Praise God that the same Power is available to you that was available to Peter, Paul and the others. Therefore we can do what they did for it is the same God working in us that worked in them. Ask Him to use you in any way He wants.

11. HE COMES INTO BELIEVERS

PRECONVERSION	CONVERSION	POSTCONVERSION
RERAINT II Thes 2:7 REPROVE, CONVICT John 16:7-10	REGENERATION Titus 3:5 INDWELLING I Cor 6:19 SEALING Eph 4:30	FULLNESS Eph 5:18 SANCTIFICATION II Cor 3:18 ILLUMINATION I Cor 2:12 PRAYER Romans 8:26-27

What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.

SPIRIT HE GAVE US

1 John 3:24 *24 Those who obey his commands live in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.*

Holy Spirit free gift at salvation (seen previously)

FULLNESS

Eph 5:18 *Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.*

Holy Spirit is like an ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT who comes in to help to get the job done.

So Holy Spirit comes each time we ask His help, enables us to fill role/perform service until job complete

SANCTIFICATION

2 Cor 3:18 *And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.*

Holy Spirit is like a SEARCH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN who helps the group select a leader, set the leader apart and put that person in a place of prominence.

'Sanctify' = 'set apart' – FROM sin
= 'become holy' TO God

PAST	PRESENT	FUTURE
Position Positional sanctification I have been sanctified Hebrews 3:1	Experience Progressive sanctification I am now being sanctified I Thessalonians 5:28	Consummation Prospective sanctification I shall be sanctified I John 3:2

DIFFERENCE: HOLY SPIRIT IN OLD TEST AND NEW TEST:

OT – Holy Spirit upon those who needed it when they needed it, temporary
Came upon Moses & elders (Num 11:25, 29), Gideon (Judges 6:34)
Came upon various judges, Samuel, Saul, Samuel many times (left between them)
David: ***"Don't take your Holy Spirit from me."***

SPIRIT THAT WAS UPON MOSES

Num 11:25, 29 Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke with him, and he took of the Spirit that was on him and put the Spirit on the seventy elders. When the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied, but they did not do so again. ... 29 But Moses replied, "Are you jealous for my sake? I wish that all the LORD's people were prophets and that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!"

SPIRIT NOT DIVIDED, ½ on Moses, ½ on others

Spirit 100% on Moses, then 100% on others

Holy Spirit doesn't divide, He multiplies (God's math)

GIVEN WITHOUT LIMIT

John 3:34 For the one whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God gives the Spirit without limit.

OLD TEST (Like John Baptizer) Holy Spirit given temporarily

NEW TEST, those under Jesus, Holy Spirit given with no limit to time, etc

Jesus given Spirit without measure, more than anyone ever in OT

We are 'in Christ' so have Holy Spirit same as Him

DOUBLE PORTION

2 Kings 2:9, 15 When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?" "Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit," Elisha replied. ... 15 The company of the prophets from Jericho, who were watching, said, "The spirit of Elijah is resting on Elisha." And they went to meet him and bowed to the ground before him.

Another example of not everyone in OT having Holy Spirit like in NT

Elisha wanted same power Elijah had, knew it only came from God

'double' not greed, just saying "I need it even more than Elijah needed it, I need double!"

OT – Holy Spirit upon those who needed it when they needed it, temporary

NT – Holy Spirit upon every one at moment of salvation, never leaves

'in Christ' 172x in NT – done by Holy Spirit

BAPTISM BY THE SPIRIT

1 Cor 12:13 For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body-whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free-and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

we were all = past tense, everyone had it

BAPTISM = 'identification' (transliteration)

WATER baptism – identified with Jesus' death & resurrection

SPIRIT baptism – identified with Jesus' Body, church, Bride

WHAT BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT IS:

Filling of Holy Spirit at moment of salvation (1 Cor 10:1ff; 12:13; 6:19; Eph 4:5; Rom 5:5)

1 Cor 6:19 Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own;

1 Cor 12:3 Therefore I tell you that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

HOLY SPIRIT COMES TO ALL AT SALVATION

Cannot be saved without having the Holy Spirit (if no HS then not saved)

Rom 8:6 The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace;

(Acts 8, 10, 19 exception as Holy Spirit came upon new groups for first time:

Jews, half Jews (Samaritans), Gentiles in Palestine, Gent out of Pal

All others received Holy Spirit immediately at salvation

Acts 10:44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard (Gentiles) the message.

TONGUES IS NOT PROOF OF SPIRIT BAPTISM

All bel have Holy Spirit, but not all have same spiritual gift

MANY received Holy Spirit but not tongues

-3,000 on Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:38-41)

-Early Church (Acts 4:31) -Samaritans (Acts 8:14-17)

-Paul (Acts 9:17-18) -John the Baptist (Lk 1:15-16)

-Jesus (Lk 3:21-22; 4:1,14,18,21)

-many (Acts 4:8,31; 6:5; 7:55; 11:24; 13:9,52)

Never mentioned in leadership qualifications!

PROOF of Holy Spirit is living obedient life (Eph 5:18ff)

ACTS 2 DOES NOT SET A PATTERN FOR US

FIRST TRANSITIONAL STEP from OT law to NT grace

Disciples saved early on, but no Holy Spirit until after ascension

NEVER REPEATED in the Bible, Acts 8, 10, 19 for new group of people for first time

If Acts 2 is the pattern, then fire and wind must always be present, too

TONGUES IN ACTS & CORINTH WERE THE SAME

Same Greek word, "known foreign languages" used (Acts 2:6-11; I Cor 14:21; 12:10)

'Interpretation' normal word for interpreting known foreign language

THE PURPOSE OF TONGUES

1. SIGN TO ISRAEL of judgment coming . As prophesied (Isa 28:9-12; 33:19f; Deut 28:49, Jer 5:15), hearing God's Word in foreign language shows God's blessing taken from them and given to Gentiles. Paul says this in I Cor 14:21-22). Jews didn't turn and judgment came in 70

2. EDIFICATION of early believers, when interpreter present (I Cor 14:26-28). This was necessary for weak & immature Cor bel (14:20-22) who were ignorant of God's truth (12:13). Use of tongues showed judgment on Jews who were present, while content of message used by God for immature bel to grow. This was to be kept to a minimum, though (14:6-12). Paul himself only used his tongue in Jewish synagogue, not Gentile services (14:39).

TONGUES TODAY DIFFER FROM NEW TESTAMENT TONGUES

Seems obvious it is different today than in NT

TONGUES ARE NOT A HEAVENLY LANGUAGE

Gk word is for KNOWN languages (Acts 2:6-11; I Cor 14:21; 12:10)

'Groanings' of Rom 8:26 is **Un**utterable - not spoken

'Tongues of angels' (I Cor 13:1) is hyperbole (overemphasis) like all of 13:1-3

When angels spoke in Bible, always talked language of listener

TONGUES ARE NOT A PRIVATE PRAYER LANGUAGE

Spiritual gifts are given for sake of others, not own self (I Cor 12:7, 12f; 14:19,27)

Tongues are for the sake of listeners (must have interpreter) not speaker

In Acts tongues always given to a group, not individual. Always used in group

Tongues are to be totally controlled by speaker, not beyond his control (I Cor 14:28-33)

Tongues are a sign to unbelievers, not bel (I Cor 14:22)

Jesus warned about praying words we don't understand (Mt 6:7)

Paul always understood what he prayed, even in tongues (I Cor 14:15)

When asked how to pray, Jesus gave Lord's Prayer

No private use of tongues recorded in Bible

DANGERS OF NEW TESTAMENT TONGUES

Satan counterfeits in church & other religions (I Cor 12:2-3)

Tongues was an inferior gift (I Cor 14) because it is self-centered (I Cor 14:4) and leads to emphasis on emotions which leads people astray (II Cor 6:11-12; Rom 16:17-18)

We are told to pray with understanding (I Cor 14:13-17), control our spiritual gift (I Cor 14:28-40)

It can become a substitute for spirituality (I Cor 14:26-28)

Produces false security of salvation, when faith must be in cross, not one's own gift

DON'T SEEK TONGUES

No one gift is for everyone, god choose who gets what (I Cor 12:7,11,18,28)

We are never commanded to seek tongues

TONGUES ARE NOT FOR TODAY

1 Cor 13:8-12 Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

'Prophecy' and 'knowledge' will suddenly cease (Gk 'katargeo' - passive voice means it will be done by something outside itself, the 'perfect thing' [eternal state])

'Tongues' will be gradually stilled (Gk 'pauo' - middle voice = stop by selves, not start again)

WHEN? Faded in acts (no mention after Acts 19)

History records it ceased (reappeared in a few far-out cults)

No need for a sign of judgment to Jews after judgment came (70 AD)

Joel 2 talks about Holy Spirit returning after Trib, but no mention of tongues

DAILY DEVOTIONS

WEEK 12

DAY 1

Gal 2:20 I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me...

Some well-meaning folk try desperately hard not to “fulfill the lusts of the flesh.” In this way they hope to become more fully sanctified Christians. Their defeat and frustration is often pitiful to see. They do not realize that this is not the road to victory. Frankly, they have spiritually placed “the cart before the horse.” In Galatians 5:16 we have the true key to becoming more “Christ-like.” There we read: “Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lusts of the flesh!” there is the secret: death to the self-life through letting the Spirit take control. But, how can one “walk in the Spirit”? The answer is: by using all the means of grace available. This includes daily Bible study, taking time for earnest prayer, witnessing to others, and fellowshiping with God’s saints whenever possible – as well as partaking of the ordinances in a good Bible-teaching assembly (Heb 10:25). As we thus become saturated with the things of the Spirit, the things of this world and self will shrink. Then, as a result, we will “not fulfill the lusts of the flesh.” Put the accent on the positive! Let Christ live out His life through you!

A family once went to hear the great Paderewski play the piano. They were thrilled. His technique was flawless. Even the critics were muttering under their breath, “Wonderful!” “Superb!” “Magnificent!” When the family returned home they looked at their piano. Said one, “We might as well sell it; we can never play like Paderewski!” They were discouraged. How different it is when we look at Christ our Saviour and Example. We are weak and helpless to live like Him in our own strength, but Christ in the Person of His Holy Spirit has entered into our lives, and if we “walk in the Spirit,” He can transform us – making us conformable to His image. Then

we shall be able to say with Paul: “I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me!” May God grant it.

PRAY: Make sure you are walking by the Spirit and not just trying to defeat sin by your own strength. Invite Him to work in and through you to give you victory, don’t think you need to have victory on your own in order to have Him fill and use you. When you come to die with Christ on the cross, He comes to live in you by His Spirit.

DAY 2

And Enoch walked with God.... Genesis 5:22 Walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desires of the flesh. Galatians 5:16

Enoch is remarkable. There are only 3 references to him in the Bible but they tell much (Gen 5, Heb 11, Jude). It is said that he “walked with God” which is what we are to do today. What can we learn from him?

WHEN he walked with God was during the most evil time in history, right before the flood. Jesus said it won’t get that bad again until the tribulation. Despite this evil, he was able to walk with God.

WHERE he walked with God was among men who were full of violence and rebellion. Corruption was everywhere, even worse than today.

WHY he walked with God was because he was looking for the coming of God at any moment. He knew judgment was near at hand and told others so (Jude 14, 15). He knew that God would remove him before the judgment came.

Are we walking with God as Enoch, or are we using the evil times we live in as an excuse to fail in this? The Bible says we are to “walk by the Spirit” – that’s the only way we can have the power to walk with Him today.

PRAY: Think about when Jesus will return for you. It could be today! Are you living as you want to be living when He comes? Ask Him to make you ready.

DAY 3

1 Thess 5:19 Do not put out the Spirit's fire;

A man lost his way in a dark and dreary mine. By the light of one candle, which he carries in his hand, he is groping for the road to sunshine and to home. That light is essential to his safety. The mine has many winding passages in which he may be hopelessly bewildered. Here and there marks have been made on the rocks to point out the true path, but he cannot see them without that light. There are many deep pits into which, if unwary, he may suddenly fall, but he cannot avoid the danger without that. Should it go out he must soon stumble, fall, perish. Should it go out that mine will be his tomb. How carefully he carries it! How anxiously he shields it from sudden gusts of air, from water dropping on it, from everything that might quench it! The case described is our own.

We are like that lonely wanderer in the mine. Does he diligently keep alight the candle on which his life depends? Make sure you don't do anything to offend the Spirit, for that will put out His fire in you. Oh He'll still be there. You won't lose your salvation. But you'll voluntarily block His working in your life by your sin. Sin always does that. Then you'll be walking in darkness instead of the light.

PRAY: If your light is out, if you have sin in your life, then the Spirit isn't lighting your way. You're on your own. Confess the sin. Invite God's Spirit to shine again in your soul.

DAY 4

1 Thes 5:19 Quench not the Spirit. Eph 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

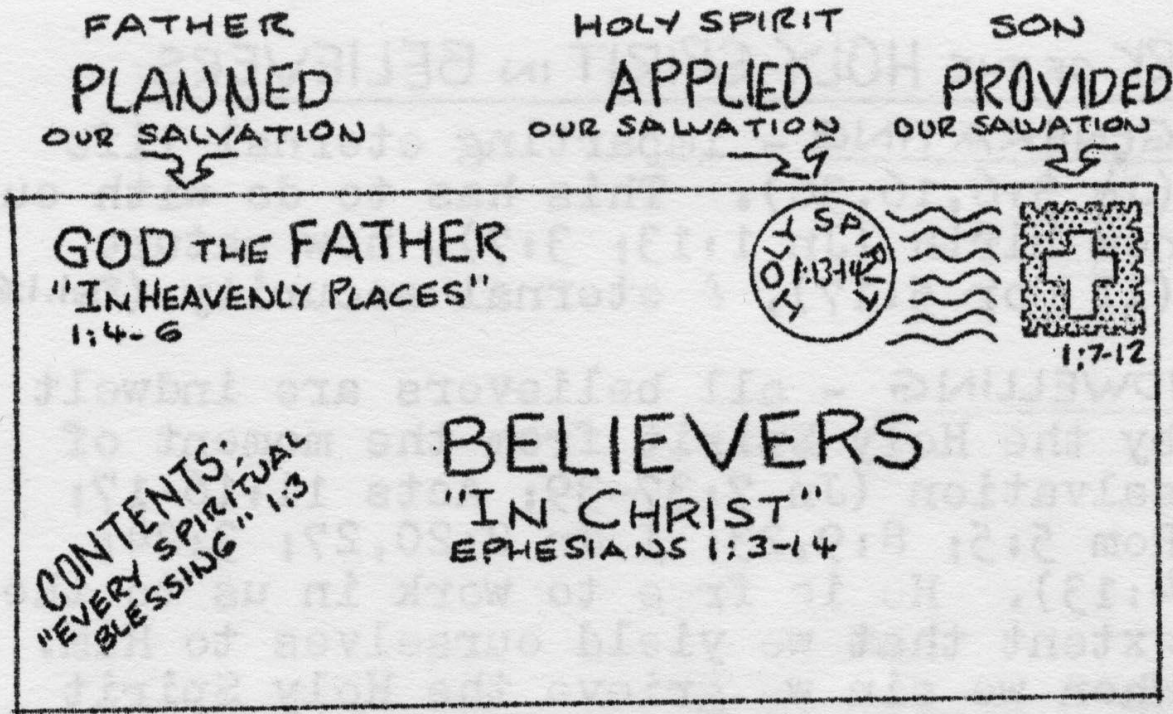
The Holy Spirit kindles a flame in our hearts to purify us and make us effective witnesses. But we must keep the fire burning by walking in obedience to Christ.

Two missionaries in Korea discovered that they had violated the command in 1 Thes 5:19. They had disagreed on a policy matter and had left a conference with bad feelings toward each other. But when they got back to their respective stations, neither had peace. Both sensed that something was wrong. Each felt a lack of power in his witness. Finally, one of them could stand it no longer, so he boarded a slow-moving train and traveled 100 miles to see his fellow worker. When the two men met face to face, they embraced and both of them wept. Then, getting down on their knees, they asked God to forgive them and to rekindle their spiritual fervor. As a result, they returned to their labors with a new sense of the Holy Spirit's glow in their hearts. Moreover, the news of their reconciliation brought conviction to many believers who were at odds with one another. A wonderful revival followed and souls were won to Christ!

PRAY: Ask God to show you if you have anyone you need to forgive or to ask for forgiveness. Make sure no unforgiveness blocks the Spirit's work in your life. Remember, the human spirit fails unless the Holy Spirit fills.

12. HE FILLS BELIEVERS

"God commands us to be filled with the Spirit; and if we aren't filled, it's because we're living beneath our privileges." --D.L. Moody



SALVATION	PAST	PRESENT	FUTURE
PLANNED BY GOD THE FATHER 1:3-6	CHOSEN IN CHRIST 4	ADOPTED IN SONSHIP 5	ACCEPTED IN THE BELOVED 6
PROVIDED BY GOD THE SON 1:7-12	PURCHASED BY HIS BLOOD 7	ENLIGHTENED BY HIS WISDOM 8-10	APPOINTED BY HIS WILL 11-12
APPLIED BY GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT 1:13-14	SAVED IN CHRIST 13a	SEALED IN CHRIST 13b	REDEEMED IN CHRIST 14

Eph 1:3-14

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. 4 For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love 5 he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will- 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace 8 that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding. 9 And he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, 10 to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment-to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ. 11 In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, 12 in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory.

13 And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, 14 who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession-to the praise of his glory.

SALVATION	CHRISTIAN LIFE
Believed that Jesus was our Savior from the guilt of sin	Believe that Jesus is our Savior from the power of sin
Trusted Him for forgiveness	Trust Him for righteousness
Took Him as a Savior in the future from the penalties of our sins	Take Him as a Savior in the present from the bondage of our sins
He lifted us out of the pit	He is to seat us in heavenly places with Himself
Faith SAVED us from the penalty of sin once for all	Faith SAVES us from the power of sin daily

FULLNESS

Eph 5:18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.

Holy Spirit is like an ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT who comes in to help to get the job done.

NOT fill self with Holy Spirit like others fill self with wine

"fill" and "drunk" go together (to be drunk means more than to drink or fill up)

it means to be under the control of, to surrender body. mind & spirit to it, dominate

to be filled with Holy Spirit is to put oneself under the influence of HOLY SPIRIT

total surrender to the gentle prompting of HOLY SPIRIT

fill = CONTROL (easier word to use)

ACTS	EPHESIANS 5:18
First receiving of HOLY SPIRIT (Salvation or first time for national group dispensationally)	After salvation
Apostles to wait, passive	Believers told to act, active
HOLY SPIRIT initiated the filling	Bel commanded to be filled
"filled <i>with</i> Spirit" - no preposition (9x) Idea of content	"filled by Spirit" preposition by/with (1x) Idea of agent
Filling is permanent	Repeatable

NOT a once-for-all event like salvation but gradual process

STEPS TO THE SPIRIT-FILLED LIFE

Be absolutely and thoroughly convinced you can do nothing apart from indwelling strength of HOLY SPIRIT, not just SAY you are convinced, but really ARE convinced (some of us are harder to convince than others)

Call it whatever: brokenness, hit bottom, etc.

Step I - salvation, accept Jesus (mental choice) - can't go back on

Step II - discipleship, put Jesus in first place in life to live for him (mental choice) can go back on

Step III - controlled by HOLY SPIRIT, sensitive to His leading, realize own strength no good (mental choice) can go back on

DEPENDENCE AND SURRENDER go hand in hand (won't totally depend on HOLY SPIRIT until we are convinced we can't do it on own, which is after we have tried and tired)

THE MORE YOU OPEN TO HIM THE MORE HE WILL FILL YOU

Elisha to widow woman (II Kings 4:6)

Gather as many empty jars as possible, will fill them all with oil

More had more filled, wished had put out more!

US same way with Holy Spirit

WALK BY THE SPIRIT

Walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desires of the flesh. Galatians 5:16

"Walk" = present tense, command "Keep on continually walking"
one step at a time under control of Holy Spirit

WALK BY THE SPIRIT = key phrase in NT @ our Christian life

To walk by the Spirit is to live with moment-by-moment dependency on and sensitivity to the initial promptings of the Holy Spirit.

DON'T GRIEVE THE SPIRIT

Eph 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

GRIEVE = "to cause pain, or grief, to distress, grieve,"

lupeo (loo-peh'-o); from NT:3077; to distress; reflexively or passively, to be sad: KJV - cause grief, grieve, be in heaviness, (be) sorrow (-ful), be (make) sorry.

lupe (loo'-pay); apparently a primary word; sadness:

KJV - grief, grievous, + grudgingly, heaviness, sorrow.

A great preacher, Pusey, once said that one of the greatest surprises of heaven will be our amazement at the number of ways in which we insult the divine grace and grieve the Spirit of God.

DON'T QUENCH THE SPIRIT

1 Thess 5:19 Do not put out the Spirit's fire;

QUENCH = NT:4570

sbennumi NT:4570 is used (a) of "quenching" fire or things on fire, extinguish

literally used of torches, lamps

figuratively used of putting out the fire of Satan's darts

KJV - go out, quench.

"DON'T STAND ON YOUR OWN AIRHOSE!" Sadly, too many believers are standing on their own spiritual air hose by failing to live in the power of the Holy Spirit. When He is quenched, we suffocate!

DEEDS OF THE FLESH

Gal 5:19-20 The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Associated with **sex**: immorality, impurity, sensuality

Associated with **religion**: idolatry

Associated with **drugs**: sorcery (pharmakia)

Associated with **relationships**: enmity, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying

Associated with **alcohol**: drunkenness, carousing

FRUIT OF HOLY SPIRIT

Gal 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

LOVE for those who do not love in return
JOY in the midst of painful circumstances
PEACE when something counting on doesn't come thru
PATIENCE when things aren't going fast enough for you
KINDNESS toward those who treat you unkindly
GOODNESS toward those who have been intentionally insensitive to you
FAITHFULNESS when friends have proved unfaithful
GENTLENESS toward those who have handled you roughly
SELF-CONTROL in the midst of intense temptation

Spirit-filled, like Jesus, not:

- free from temptation
- isolated from hurts
- lacking disappointments

The HOLY SPIRIT's power cannot be harnessed. It cannot be used to accomplish anything other than the Father's will. He is not a candy dispenser. He is not a vending machine. He is not a genie waiting for someone to rub His lamp the right way. He is holy God.

HOLY SPIRIT PRODUCES FRUIT OF HOLY SPIRIT IN US

Gal 5:24-25 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

Only the Holy Spirit can transform

- Your marriage
- Your family
- Your self

ABIDE IN THE SPIRIT

John 15:1-8

15:1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

How does branch bear fruit? by trying its best, working hard

or by just letting vine produce it on it

Branch can't bear fruit, not designed for that

Gal 5 DEEDS of the flesh

FRUIT of the Holy Spirit

No such thing as DEEDS of HOLY SPIRIT
It is HIS fruit, He hangs it on us!

Branch must just be in contact with vine ('CONTROL')
We BEAR fruit, we don't PRODUCE fruit
"Apart from me you can do nothing."
"ALL OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS LIKE FILTHY RAGS"

CHRISTIAN LIFE SAME AS SALVATION

We have nothing to do for salvation but receive it, He did it all (Eph 2:8-9) Same with Christian life - He does that through us, too!

Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?" Gal 3:3

As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him. Col 2:6-7

The life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God Gal 2:20

HOLY SPIRIT brings us to Christ, moves in us to understand and want salvation, to stop rejecting it. HOLY SPIRIT works same way after salvation, too - moves in us when we listen
Most bel: "Thanks for salvation by grace, I'll take over from here!"

Like me SINGING: no matter how hard try, confess failure, commit to sing better, sing more and louder, not change what comes out!

Not in me to do it no matter how hard try

WE can't, don't change - but letting HOLY SPIRIT within guide & direct us brings about change
HOLY SPIRIT IS THE CHANGE AGENT!

For it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure. Phil 2:13

SECURITY OF SALVATION

I. SEC OF SAL PROVED BY KEY PASSAGES

A. GOD'S FAITHFULNESS - II Tim 2:13

"It is a trustworthy statement: ... If we are faithless, He remains faithful; for He cannot deny Himself."

Keeping salvation is not dependent on our faithfulness to our promises, but God's faithfulness to His promises.

Bottom line is God, not man

B. GOD'S PROTECTION - Mt 12:20; Ps 37:24

"A battered reed He will not break off, and a smoldering wick He will not put out." Mt 12:20, quoting Isa 42:3

Shepherds played music on a reed or straw until it broke and was useless, then threw it away and cut another

God, thru Isaiah, reminding the Jews He will be faithful to them even though they have been unfaithful to Him.

Christ coming to earth proved that very point
He came because God was faithful promises,
Not because the Jews faithful to theirs

"Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; for the Lord upholds him with His hand."
Psalm 37:24

When Peter lost faith walking on the water, Jesus did not let him drown but rescued him
"Christ, who has begun a good work in you, will carry it on to completion as the day of Christ Jesus." Phil 1:6

C. GOD'S FORGIVENESS - Rom 4:1-12

"Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord will not take into account." Romans 4:1-12 (v. 8 here),
quoting Psalm 32:2 About David and sin with Bathsheba. David should have been
stoned to death for adultery and murder, for sure would have lost salvation. David's testimony is
that God does not take his salvation or hold the sin against him eternally

D. STEADFASTNESS - Jn 10:28; Rom 8:37-39

*"In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us, For I am convinced
that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any
powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us
from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."* Rom 8:37-9

Nothing can separate a believer from God

Not Satan or demons

Not any event on earth

Not even man's free will giving back salv.

*"I give to them (Christians) eternal life and they shall never perish. No one can snatch them out
of my hand. My father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; and no one is able to
snatch them out of my father's hand."* John 10:28-9

WE ARE SECURE BECAUSE:

1. Christ our Shepherd responsible to care for us, get
us to heaven, that He'd fail a sheep blasphemy
2. Sheep too dumb to take care of self, resp on Shep
3. "Eternal" life already a possession now
4. "Given" - sheep just receive it unconditionally
5. Jesus says we will "Never" perish, He doesn't lie
"NEVER" = *ou ma* strongest Greek negative
6. Secure in Christ's hand, none can open it
"NO ONE" = Satan or man himself
7. Christ & us in God's hand, extra protection

II. SEC OF SAL PROVED BY ORIGINAL GREEK

A. "BELIEVE"

"He who believes has eternal life."

Believe Gk tense (aorist) once-for-all

Believe once in past, results keep on forever

NOT: "Must keep on believing or no eternal life"

B. "BELIEVE AND BE SAVED"

"Believe and you shall be saved."

"Believe" same as above

"Be saved" future certainty (Indicative)

Passive, we freely receive this

C. "ARE SAVED"

"Have been saved." "Are saved"

"Saved" = one time event (like believe)

Passive: received, unconditionally

D. "NEVER PERISH"

"Will never perish"

Strongest Greek negative, can't possible change

III. SEC OF SAL PROVED BY ALL INVOLVED IN SALV

A. EFFECTS/ASPECTS OF SALVATION

Everything in salvation is by God, man unable to do anything but stop rejecting the free gift

No conditions on man's part so no reason God

can take it back

38 things God does at moment of salvation are eternal

(not turned on and off)

Reconciled

Redeemed

Forgiven

Seated w/ Jes

Son of God

Born Again

Regenerated

Adopted

Accepted

Righteous

Justified

Sanctified

From Satan

Holy Priesthood

Access God

Citizen Heaven

Baptized by HOLY SPIRIT Sealed HOLY SPIRIT

Indwelt by HOLY SPIRIT All Sp Bless

Sin in believer's life loses REWARD, not salvation

When sin we are told to "CONFESS" the sin (1 Jn 1:9)

Nowhere told to be "resaved"

God DISCIPLINES believers in sin, but still bel for treated

as His children - Heb 12

All bel in BODY OF CHRIST, can't be taken from body

Bel FREE from power of sin, so can't sin as unbeliever for
under blood of Jesus

B. GOD'S PART IN SALVATION

ETERNAL PLAN OF GOD - all is God's work, not ours

Foreknown

Elected

Predestined

Chosen

Called

One proof we can't lose salvation is God's Sovereignty/Election (as seen last week by Calvin)

we did nothing to get salvation, no conditions

We can't do anything to loose, give it back!

UNITED WITH GOD: "In God" "God in You"

C. CHRIST'S PART IN SALVATION

UNITED WITH JESUS: "In Christ" "Christ in You"

Part/member of His body

Crucified, died, buried, raised, ascended & seated with Christ - this can only happen
ONCE
(if loose salvation, no chance of saved again)
(Arminians don't teach this)

D. HOLY SPIRIT'S PART IN SALVATION

UNITED WITH HOLY SPIRIT: "In HOLY SPIRIT" "HOLY SPIRIT in you"

KEEPING WORK OF HOLY SPIRIT

Regeneration - new life
Indwelling - in each believer from salvation on
Baptizing - putting into Body of Christ
Sealing - guarantee!!!

SIN AGAINST HOLY SPIRIT

Grieve Not (by sin)
Quench not (by not yielding, submitting)
Not Walk by (own wisdom & goals)
No mention of losing HOLY SPIRIT, just hurting Him

IV. SEC OF SAL PROVED BY OT & NT EXAMPLES, ILL

A. O.T. ILLUSTRATIONS

ARK Noah built ("Pitch" word for "Atonement")
Inside, not hanging on outside by own strength
God shut the door, kept it closed/secure

SNAKE IN WILDERNESS look once & healed forever,
never got snake poison back, even if stopped looking

MOSES HIT ROCK TWICE - Christ only crucified ONCE
Moses didn't enter land (discipline) but to heaven

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT - basis of all God's dealings
Ab asleep, only God made promises, commitments

B. O.T. EXAMPLES

NOAH sinned (drunk, naked) still saved Heb 11:7

ABRAHAM & SARAH didn't trust God several times
Still saved, into heaven

JACOB: stole birthright, cheated Laban, but believer

MOSES: MENTIONED ABOVE

SAMSON: failed terribly, saved Heb 11:32

JOB doubted, questioned God, never lost salvation

LOT very worldly, sex with daughters when drunk
NT "Righteous Lot"

DAVID and Bathsheba, lost JOY but not salvation

C. N.T. ILLUSTRATIONS

BIRTH, born again, new babies, etc - Can't be UNborn

SONSHIP & ADOPTION

Can't change being physical son, irreversible

CARNAL BELIEVERS - Christians living by flesh, sin
still believers, didn't lose salvation
of that flock no matter what

GIFT - nothing to earn/deserve, nothing to lose

D. N.T. EXAMPLES

PRODIGAL SON denied father, never stopped being
Father's son

PETER denied Christ 3 times, never lost salvation

CHRISTIANS worldly, sinful, but still Christians

At ROME 7:14; 12:1; 2:16

At CORINTH

James's readers

Churches told to discipline them or God would

ANNIAS & SAPHIRA sinned, killed, but to heaven

V. SEC OF SAL PROVED BY GRACE AS WAY OF LIFE

A. PROVISION OF GRACE

Salvation freely given by grace

Accepted by grace (redemed, forgiven, etc)

Enabled by grace (free from law, power to live)

Position by grace (holy priesthood, citizen of heaven)

Inheritance by grace (complete in Him, all sp blessing)

B. FREEDOM FROM LAW

Law only for Israle, bel under Grace, not law

Law shows need of salvation, man's failure

C. FALACY OF LEGALISM

System of do's and don'ts to earn or keep salvation changes whole motive

God wants us to serve out of LOVE, not FEAR

(Like us with children)

Focus is on His free gift already given, our response is love

If not focus is on our good works, outer conformity

D. PRINCIPLE OF LIBERTY

We are FREE in Christ

Living to keep salvation is NOT living in liberty but BONDAGE

DAILY DEVOTIONS

WEEK 13

DAY 1

Exodus 13:21 And the Lord went before them ... in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way.

This tells of how God led the people of Israel as they left Egypt for the Promised Land. It was a pillar of cloud by day and light by night. It is a picture of God's Holy Spirit Which leads us today. Each is a gracious gift from God (John 14:6) The pillar of cloud was provided to guide the children of Israel. So, too, the Holy Spirit leads the true Christian. Jesus said, "when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth" (John 16:13). The Lord spoke to the Israelites from the cloud. John, writing in Revelation 2:7, said, "He that has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." Even as the cloud remained with the nation in the wilderness, so Jesus promised that the Father would send "another Comforter" who would 'abide' with us forever (John 14:6).

As those who know the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior, we are temples of the Holy Spirit. God Himself dwells within. With thankful hearts may we at all times honor the presence of this Divine Guest. "Walk in the Spirit" (Gal 5:16). By so doing, our lives will be characterized by love, joy and peace. We will be effective, radiant and powerful witnesses for Christ as we travel through the wilderness of this world. Remember, the Holy Spirit in us is the Shekinah of the soul, both leading and illuminating us.

PRAY: Thank God for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Ask Him to guide and speak to you as your travel thru this day. Thank Him that He will always remain with you.

DAY 2

Isa 11:2-3 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of

the fear of the LORD-- 3 and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.

At the foot of the Rockies on the Pacific Coast are some very rugged and interesting canyons that reach far back into the heart of the country. It is said that geologists from all parts of the world come to see these interesting natural canals. Into these winding fissures in the Rockies the waves of the Pacific roll for many miles toward the interior. If you follow one of these narrow streams in a pleasure cruiser, at times it seems as if great walls of rock suddenly jut out before you to block further progress. The captain, however, never slows the pace of the vessel for he knows the way is clear. At one place especially it looks as if the boat will certainly be shattered on the craggy rocks ahead, but by a slight turn of the wheel, disaster is avoided. Then a great new expanse of water is seen – wide, beautiful, and unobstructed. Fear on the part of the passengers was completely uncalled for. The pilot is never in any anxiety or doubt, because he knows the safety of the course he has charted.

So, too, we often are filled with unnecessary fear concerning the way God is guiding our boat of life. How much better to simply trust the Lord and praise Him for the sure help of His Spirit. Like Pilgrim in Bunyan's great allegory, however, we fear the lions by the wayside; but once we obey and follow the Lord, and go on disregarding their threatenings, we find them securely chained by the side of the way, so that there is still abundant room for us to pass in safety.

Why should you nervously pace the deck when the Perfect Pilot is at the wheel?

PRAY: What in the future are you fearing? Where are you uncertain about God's leading? Put your trust in Him and rest in His leading and guidance.

DAY 3

Isa 11:2-3 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power ...

If we go forth to do the Lord's work in our own strength and fight the battles of God against the enemy of our soul with the arm of flesh, we shall fail miserably. Even as Samson, when his power had been shorn from him, was easily taken by the worldly Philistines, so too we must certainly meet defeat in our Christian life unless we go in the "strength of the Lord."

The French painter Emile Ranouf has depicted on one of his canvases an old man dressed in a fisherman's garb, seated in a boat, with a little girl beside him. Both the elderly gentleman and the child, perhaps his grand-daughter, have their hand on a huge oar. He is looking down fondly and admiringly upon her. Apparently he has told her that she may assist him in rowing the boat, and she in her desire to help feels as though she is doing a great share of the task. However, it is easy to see that it is really his strong, muscular arm which is actually propelling the boat through the waves. In this painting, called, "A Helping Hand," one may trace a parable. Christ has granted to us the privilege of sharing His work here below; however we must never forget that we cannot perform our task through our abilities alone, but only as God's Spirit works in and through us. While He directs us to put our hand upon the oar, we must ever be aware of the source of our power. He is the

strength of our life! There is no true progress spiritually without the unction of the Holy Spirit to under gird our life and efforts. Let us recognize our own innate weakness and like the psalmist cry out: "O Lord; O my strength, please help me"! (Psalm 22:19). Then we shall not faint nor fail, for the inward man will be "renewed day by day" (II Cor 4:16).

PRAY: Make sure you do your part in what He has given you to do this day, but also sit back and rest in His strength which is what REALLY makes things happen. Trust Him for that. Thank Him for it.

DAY 4

Isa 11:2-3 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD-- 3 and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.

Many years ago, the throne of Russia was once occupied by two boy princes. They sat side by side and gave their decisions on the gravest questions; the judgments were so wise and just, that men marveled that princes so young and inexperienced could now so much of statecraft, or speak with such discretion on questions so difficult. But the secret was that close behind the throne where they sat, hidden by a thin veil, was the Princess Sophia. She heard the cases brought to them, and gave the decisions which they pronounced. Those boys referred everything to her, and waited until she whispered to them the wise answer they delivered. So "the word of Christ should dwell" in our heart by the Holy Spirit (Col. 3:16). It is unseen but only a thin veil conceals it.

We are to refer every matter to the Holy Spirit and wait for His decision. Then what He bids us do we are to do. Thus Christ "brings into captivity every thought," every feeling and affection (II Cor 10:5; gal 5:24). He will settle every point of duty. He will mold our business methods. He will sit as the invisible umpire in all questions of pleasure, of profit, of ambition or leadership. "The Word in nigh thee" (Rom 10:8).

PRAY: Bring your needs and requests to the Lord, then sit quietly listening for His answer.

13. HE GUIDES BELIEVERS

(Isaiah 11)

Isa 11:2-3

**2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him--
the Spirit of wisdom
and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel
and of power,
the Spirit of knowledge
and of the fear of the LORD--
3 and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.**

CONTEXT:

talking about the Messiah, 'shoot' from stump of Jesse
Assyria destroyed north, threatening south, like gigantic forest
But tiny shoot will spring up, Messiah from it, conquer all other forests forever

**Isa 11:1 A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.**

2 The SPIRIT OF THE LORD will rest on him--

ruwach (roo'-akh); from OT:7306; wind; by resemblance breath

Yehovah (yeh-ho-vaw'); YHWH from OT:1961; (the) self-Existent or Eternal; Jehovah, Jewish national name of God:

Like 7-branched lampstand, middle highest, 3 on each side (3 pairs to 2 each)

This one high center one, other 3 pairs listed below

1 = who He is

2-7 = what He does

I. INTELLECTUAL LIFE

THE SPIRIT OF WISDOM

chokmah (khok-maw'); wisdom (in a good sense): KJV - skilful, wisdom, wisely, wit.

Power of discerning the nature of things

Similar to Greek NT: sophia (sof-ee'-ah); wisdom (higher or lower, worldly or spiritual):

Ability to discern people and motives, look past appearances to what is real

Jesus: knew what was in heart of man

Spiritual gift: Ananias & Sapphira lied to Peter, and Holy Spirit showed Peter they were deceitful

Us: sees right through external, knows thoughts & motives, hidden sin, attitudes

AND OF UNDERSTANDING,

biynah (bee-naw'); understanding: KJV - knowledge, meaning, understanding, wisdom.

Power of discerning the nature of things in their difference

Similar to Greek NT diakrisis (dee-ak'-ree-sis); judicial estimation: KJV - discern (-ing),

Ability to distinguish authentic from counterfeit

Tell difference between things which are similar, real & counterfeit

Jesus: tell Pharisees from true believers

Spiritual gift: counseling, church leader know who is believer

Us: look into our lives and see true & counterfeit, even when we don't

II. PRACTICAL LIFE

THE SPIRIT OF COUNSEL

`etsah (ay-tsaw'); from OT:3289; advice; by implication, plan; also prudence: KJV – advice, advisement, counsel ([- [or]], purpose.

Gift of forming right conclusions

Ability to make right decisions & adopt right conclusions

Jesus: asked God for direction, guidance often

Spiritual gift: some with sensitive gift in this area

Us: must seek God's guidance in all areas of life

Holy Spirit guides, leads by Word, circumstances, speaking inside

AND OF POWER,

gebuwrah (gheb-oo-law'); feminine passive participle from the same as OT:1368; force (literally or figuratively); by implication, valor, victory: KJV - force, mastery, might, mighty (act, power), power, strength.

Ability to carry out the right conclusions (above)

Ability to carry out His decisions and purposes

NOT dependent on amount of our faith, but on God's power

Not great faith in a little God, but little faith in a great God

Jesus: faith in God to empower Him for miracles, resist temptation, cross, etc

Spiritual gift: some with greater gift of faith

Us: faith in God's power, not in self

III. SPIRITUAL LIFE

THE SPIRIT OF KNOWLEDGE (of the LORD)

da`ath (dah'-ath); knowledge: KJV - cunning

Knowledge founded on the reverence of love

Knowledge about the Godhead, knowing God

Better know God easier to love, obey (WWJD), faithfully serve, trust, etc.

Jesus: knowledge He had of others, etc., came from God

Spiritual gift: gift of knowledge (Word, God, truth, etc) from Holy Spirit

Us: knowing God results in greater spiritual insight in all areas of life (Prov 9:10)

and of THE FEAR OF THE LORD--

yir'ah (yir-aw'); feminine of OT:3373; fear (also used as infinitive); morally, reverence:
KJV - X dreadful, X exceedingly, fear (-fulness).

Fear founded on reverence

OT 'fear of the Lord' = lifestyle of reverential trust in God (Ps 34, 37)

Work in helping people approach God with reverence in prayer & worship

Motivates us to refrain from sinful habits and attitudes that are offensive to God

Jesus: proper respect for God in all things

Spiritual gift: (none)

Us: reverential attitude to God, turning from sin

3 and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.

7 = SACRED PERFECTION

"7 horns and 7 eyes, which are the 7 Spirits of God sent out into all the earth"

Rev 5:6

7 HORNS = strength (animal defend self)

7 EYES = insight, sees & knows all

CANDELABRA Jews used had 7 lights – these are 7 spiritual lights

"7 lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the 7 Spirits of God" Rev 4:5

used to search for something lost

Holy Spirit shows us guidance, direction, points out sin & counterfeits

SPIRITUAL MARKERS TO INDICATE & CONFIRM GOD'S WILL IN YOUR LIFE

1. DO I HAVE PEACE ABOUT IT?

The absence or presence of peace is often the first indication that the Holy Spirit is up to something.

God is not going to violate our free will and force us to do the right thing. We will never lose our freedom to make mistakes. Therefore, it is that much more important for us to develop moment-by-moment sensitivity to the presence or absence of God's peace in our lives.

2. DOES MY CONSCIENCE CONVICT ME?

Conscience: that inner capacity within each of us to discern right from wrong, wise from unwise.

Conscience functions somewhat like a COMPUTER. Programmed to respond in specific ways to specific incoming info, based on the commands it has been programmed to follow. It responds to certain input the way it has been instructed to respond. This programming takes place every time you read, study or memorize the Bible, listen to a sermon or Bible study, worship or pray.

3. DOES IT LINE UP WITH THE WORD OF GOD?

This is the most objective way the Holy Spirit reveals Himself and therefore the most valuable.

You will never be able to accurately identify the peace of God or the voice of God without some understanding of the Word of God.

4. DO I RELY ON GOD'S WISDOM?

Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil. So then, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit.
Ephesians 5:15-18

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all men generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. James 1:5

- What is the wise thing to do in light of my past experience?
- What is the wise thing to do in light of my present situation?
- What is the wise thing to do in light of my future plans and dreams?

5. DO I HAVE A NEUTRAL HEART?

The HS speaks to **neutral** hearts. He is a wonderful communicator. But He does not speak for the sake of passing along information. He speaks to get a response. He waits for us to become neutral enough to hear and eventually obey.

The neutral heart is the one that is able to keep its own hurts, burdens and requests in proper perspective. It always approaches the throne of grace with its own agenda in the background.

DAILY DEVOTIONS

WEEK 14

DAY 1

Acts 1:8 *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

Power! This is indeed the age of power. A century ago it was horsepower, manpower and waterpower. Then came steam, then electricity and not nuclear power. The oldest power is the power of God, the power that created the universe. All other power sources ultimately draw on this power.

Today we store power in batteries and cells. We can plug in directly to power lines. We need to be connected to the power source, though, for our equipment to work.

The story is told of a woodsman who came into town out of the woods for supplies. He was in need of several items, including a new ax. On the counter of the general store was advertised a new chain saw which was guaranteed to cut down twice as many trees in one day as any previous one. He eagerly purchased the saw. A week later he was back in the store. In rather descriptive terms he demanded his money back. When asked why, he said that before he was chopping down ten trees a day with his axe, but that now with much more effort he was lucky if he could fell one or two. The store owner looked the machine over very carefully. He checked the chain and the spark plug. He could find nothing wrong with it, so he flipped the switch and pulled the cord to start it. As it roared to life, the woodsman jumped back in surprise and exclaimed, "What's that noise?"

Too often we have available to us a tremendous power source but do not appreciate it in our lives. "You will RECEIVE power..." We have no power in ourselves. We must connect with the Divine power source, the Holy Spirit.

PRAY: Think of that sin or situation you are trying to handle without success. Ask God to pull the cord and fill you with His power in order to handle it. When you face it mentally stop and

let His empower you so you can move ahead in His strength.

DAY 2

Luke 1:35 *The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God."*

Luke 4:14 *Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside.*

A. J. Gordon, one of the founders of Gordon Conwell Divinity School, tells of being out walking and looking across a field at a house, and there beside the house was what looked like a man pumping furiously at one of those hand pumps. As Gordon watched, the man continued to pump at a tremendous rate; he seemed absolutely tireless, pumping on and on, up and down without ever slowing in the slightest, much less stopping. Truly it was a remarkable sight, so Gordon started to walk toward it. As he got closer, he could see it was not a man at all, but a wooden figure painted to look like a man. The arm that was pumping so rapidly was hinged at the elbow and the hand was wired to the pump handle. The water was pouring forth, but not because the figure was pumping it. You see, it was an artesian well, and the water was pumping the man!

When you see a man who is at work for God and producing results, recognize it is the Holy Spirit working through him and not his efforts that are giving results. All you have to do is keep your hand on the handle!

PRAY: Think of the good changes that have been taking place in your life and heart in the last year or so. Give credit for all of that to God. Commit to keeping your hand on the handle all day and allow Him to work through you. Thank Him whenever you sense Him leading, guiding, comforting, encouraging, convicting or empowering you.

DAY 3

Rom 15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Rom 15:19 by the power of signs and miracles, through the power of the Spirit. So from Jerusalem all the way around to Illyricum, I have fully proclaimed the gospel of Christ.

The well-known British Bible teacher J. N. Darby said, "The holy Spirit dwells in every Christian. But it is another thing to be so filled with him that He becomes the source of each thought and deed so that what the heart produces is the fruit of His presence." While every child of God has all of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit does not necessarily possess all of him! Paul pleads with believer sin Ephesians 5:18, "And do not be drunk with wine, in which is excess, but be filled with the Spirit." Only by yielding ourselves to His control will we be able to walk in close fellowship with the Savior and be empowered to live a sanctified life (Luke 24:49).

George Duncan once went to visit some friends in the English countryside. For years they had lived in a old-fashioned, rundown building. To Mr. Duncan's surprise, he discovered that the house had been completely remodeled. The people had installed new lights, an electric stove, and many other pieces of modern equipment. But he was even more surprised to see the lady of the house still using a kerosene stove for cooking and oil lamps for lighting. After greeting him, she said, "George, don't look so confused. We've had a great change here, but we just haven't turned on the power yet."

The application is clear: Every saved sinner has had a great change in his standing before God and has received the indwelling Holy Spirit. Yet many haven't even begun to tap His blessed resources for holy living. Today let God have full control. Be filled with the Spirit - that's the way to turn on the power!

PRAY: Envision your day lived out with you filled by the Spirit in everything, every moment. What would it take on your part for that to happen? Ask God to help you turn and keep His power turned on in your life.

DAY 4

Eph 3:16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being,

2 Tim 1:7 For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

Every believer is indwelt by the Holy Spirit, who gives the power to live the Christian life and to be an effective witness for the Savior. All it takes is one sin for that power to be disconnected. Quenching or grieving the Spirit will do it (Eph 4:30; I Thes 5:19).

Recently I read an article about an entire city that was plunged into darkness. It seems that a little mouse had found its way into a switchbox in the municipal electric plant, short-circuiting the entire system. The town had plenty of power, but the citizens couldn't use it.

PRAY: Ask God to show you any sin that would prevent His power from fully flowing into and through you. Confess it and ask Him to fill and use you.

14. HE ENABLES BELIEVERS

SPIRIT OF POWER

OLD TESTAMENT WORDS FOR POWER

ARM

zeroa` OT:2220, "arm; power; strength; help." Zeroa` means "arm," a part of the body: In some passages, zeroa` refers especially to the forearm: Elsewhere, the word represents the shoulder: Zeroa` connotes the "seat of strength": God's strength is figured by anthropomorphisms (attributing to Him human bodily parts), such as His "stretched out arm" Deut 4:34 or His "strong arm" Jer 21:5.

HAND

yad OT:3027, "hand; side; border; alongside; hand-measure; portion; arm (rest); monument; manhood (male sex organ); power; rule." Biblical Hebrew attests it about 1,618 times and in every period.

The primary sense of this word is "hand"

POWER

koach OT:3581, "strength; power; force; ability." This Hebrew word is used in biblical, rabbinic, and modern Hebrew with little change in meaning. The root is uncertain in Hebrew, but the verb is found in Arabic (wakaha, "batter down," and kwch, "defeat"). Koach, which occurs 124 times, is a poetic word as it is used most frequently in the poetic and prophetic literature.

The basic meaning of koach is an ability to do something

- 1) strength, power, might
 - a) human strength
 - b) strength (used of angels)
 - c) power (used of God)
 - d) strength (used of animals)
 - e) strength, produce, wealth (used of soil)

STRENGTH

chayil OT:2458, "strength; power; wealth; property; capable; valiant; army; troops; influential; upper-class people (courtiers)." The cognates of this word have been found in Aramaic, Akkadian, Syriac, Arabic, and Ethiopic. Biblical Hebrew attests it about 245 times and in all periods. First, this word signifies a faculty or "power," the ability to effect or produce something. The word is used of physical "strength" in the sense of power that can be exerted:

TO BE MARVELOUS

A. Verb. pala' OT:6381, "to be marvelous, be extraordinary, be beyond one's power to do, do wonderful acts." As can be seen from the suggested meanings, this verb is not easy to define. As a denominative verb, it is based on the noun for "wonder, marvel," so it expresses the idea of doing or making a wondrous thing. Found in both biblical and modern Hebrew, pala' occurs some 70 times in the Hebrew Old Testament. The verb is found for the first time in Gen 18:14: "Is any thing too hard for the Lord?"

OLD TESTAMENT VERSES ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT & POWER

Judg 14:6

6 The Spirit of the LORD came upon him in power so that he tore the lion apart with his bare hands as he might have torn a young goat. But he told neither his father nor his mother what he had done.

Samson's strength came from God's Holy Spirit, not own muscle

Judg 15:14

14 As he approached Lehi, the Philistines came toward him shouting. The Spirit of the LORD came upon him in power. The ropes on his arms became like charred flax, and the bindings dropped from his hands.

Samson's strength came from God's Holy Spirit, not own muscle

1 Sam 10:6, 10

6 The Spirit of the LORD will come upon you in power, and you will prophesy with them; and you will be changed into a different person. ... 10 When they arrived at Gibeah, a procession of prophets met him; the Spirit of God came upon him in power, and he joined in their prophesying.

Saul anointed by Samuel to preach, done by God's Spirit

ALL OT prophets spoke by power of Holy Spirit, not own

1 Sam 11:6

6 When Saul heard their words, the Spirit of God came upon him in power, and he burned with anger.

Ammorites about to humiliate Jews at Jabesh Gilead (make slaves, put out right eye)

Word sent to Saul who got angry (righteous indignation)

Led attack to defeat Ammorites, free Jabesh Gilead

1 Sam 16:13

13 So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came upon David in power. Samuel then went to Ramah.

David anointed King, Holy Spirit's power on him

-PHYSICAL POWER - kill bear, lion, Goliath (like Samson's power)

-POWER TO LEAD – became leader of men, then whole nation

The Holy Spirit does not fill us to make life ENJOYABLE (although that will happen), but to make us EMPLOYABLE

Isa 11:2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD--

ebuwrah (gheb-oo-raw'); feminine passive participle from the same as OT:1368; force

Not great faith in a little God, but little faith in a great God

Gal 4:29 At that time the son born in the ordinary way persecuted the son born by the power of the Spirit. It is the same now.

Referring to Isaac, persecuted by Ishamel

Isaac born when parents too old, done by power of Holy Spirit

NEW TESTAMENT WORDS FOR POWER

1. **dunamis** NT:1411, for the different meanings of which see ABILITY, MIGHT, is sometimes used, by metonymy, of persons and things

strength power, ability

a) inherent power, power residing in a thing by virtue of its nature, or which a person or thing exerts and puts forth

b) power for performing miracles

c) moral power and excellence of soul

d) the power and influence which belong to riches and wealth

e) power and resources arising from numbers

f) power consisting in or resting upon armies, forces, hosts

2. **exousia (noun)** NT:1849 denotes "freedom of action, right to act"; used of God, it is absolute, unrestricted,

exousiazo (verb) NT:1850, "to exercise authority" (akin to A, No. 2), is used (a) in the active voice, Luke 22:25, RV, "have authority" (KJV, "exercise authority"), of the "power" of rulers;

1) power of choice, liberty of doing as one pleases, permission

2) physical and mental power, the ability or strength with which one is endued, which he either possesses or exercises

3) the power of authority (influence) and of right (privilege)

4) the power of rule or government (the power of him whose will and commands must be submitted to by others and obeyed)

In Jesus we have both **power** (δυναμις dunamis - Luke 9:1; 24:49; Acts 1:8; 4:33; 6:8; Ephesians 1:18-23; Hebrews 2:14-15) and **authority** (ἐξουσία exousia - Luke 10:1,17-20; Matthew 10:1,8; Mark 3:15; 6:7; I John 4:4). Power comes from the Holy Spirit within (Acts 1:8), authority comes from our relationship as a child of Jesus (John 1:12).

A policeman has both authority (badge) and power (gun or club). Both come from a source outside himself, as do ours (Colossians 12:9-10).

Satan also has power (Luke 10:19; I Corinthians 15:24; I Peter 3:22) and authority (Luke 4:6; Acts 26:10; I Corinthians 15:24; Ephesians 1:21; 2:2; 3:10; 6:12). Demons have these, also (Revelation 9:3,10,19; Colossians 1:16; 2:10; I Peter 3:22). God's power and authority is superior to that which Satan & the demons have. Men without Jesus do not have power or authority anywhere near to Satan and his demons, though.

NEW TESTAMENT VERSES ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT & POWER

Luke 1:35 The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

Mary pregnant without a man done by power of Holy Spirit

Luke 4:14 Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside.

Jesus filled with Holy Spirit from birth, but special ENABLEMENT upon Him from baptism
Same true of us – always filled, sometimes extra for special need/ministry

Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Need God's power to WITNESS to others about Him

MY WITNESS

Job 16:19 Even now my witness is in heaven; my advocate is on high.

Heb 10:15 The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. First he says:

Holy Spirit constantly bears witness to the Father and the Son

Bears witness to us that we are God's and have His salvation

1 John 5:6-10 For there are three that testify: 8 the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement. 9 We accept man's testimony, but God's testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son. 10 Anyone who believes in the Son of God has this testimony in his heart. Anyone who does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because he has not believed the testimony God has given about his Son.

Rom 15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Hope (confident assurance of the future) comes from Holy Spirit within

Rom 15:19 by the power of signs and miracles, through the power of the Spirit. So from Jerusalem all the way around to Illyricum, I have fully proclaimed the gospel of Christ.

Paul's preaching and miracle-doing was by power of Holy Spirit

Eph 3:16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being,

2 Tim 1:7 For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

DAILY DEVOTIONS

WEEK 15

DAY 1

GROW in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. // Peter 3:18

Many sincere Christians do not have the clear perception of Christ they experienced at salvation. They no longer have a keen desire to serve Him, and their sense of His presence and power has faded. These believers need to realize that the Holy Spirit has been given to keep the reality of Christ in sharp focus.

The 19th century French inventor Louis Daguerre was one of the pioneers of photography. In those early days, he could take a picture by exposing a metal plate to light. When the plate was taken out of the camera, however, the image soon disappeared. Daguerre tried many ways to keep the image from fading, but nothing worked. One day he found a plate that had been left in a closet full of chemicals, and to his amazement the image was bright and sharp. He took other pictures, put the plates in that closet, and got the same results. He didn't know what was causing the image to remain, so he kept the pictures in the closet and began removing items one at a time. Even after everything else was removed, the images remained on the plates. Finally Daguerre discovered that some mercury had been spilled in the closet. Further experiments proved that mercury vapor was fixing the image on the plate.

The Holy Spirit does in you and me what the mercury vapor did to that photographic plate. He helps us keep Christ in focus. Our part is to be careful not to grieve or quench Him. As we obey the Holy Spirit, He will keep before us a sharp image of Christ. Given a chance, the Spirit will work in us to develop the clear image of Jesus Christ.

PRAY: Thank God for the work He has been doing to make you more like Jesus now than you were years ago. Ask Him to continue that work as long as you live.

DAY 2

Isa 4:4

4 The Lord will wash away the filth of the women of Zion; he will cleanse the bloodstains from Jerusalem by a spirit of judgment and a spirit of fire.

There is nothing that the lukewarm church needs more today than believers who are so filled with the Holy Spirit that they are truly "on fire" for God!

Concerning the necessity of maintaining this spiritual glow and the zeal of sanctification, Samuel L. Bringle once wrote: "The old Founder called a few of us to him on the train one day and said, 'Young men, take heed to the fire in your own hearts, for *the tendency of fire is to go out.*' I thought about that, and I said to myself, 'Yes, fire will go out unless I do three things: 1) Keep the drafts open; 2) Keep the ashes and the clinkers shaken out; and 3) Put on more fuel. Then I applied it to my own soul. I am not to run around and kindle my fire at the altar of someone else. I have a fire of my own. I am to keep the drafts open – keep testifying, keep the prayer windows open toward heaven. I am to keep the ashes out – I cannot depend upon past experiences; I must seek God afresh. Then I must add fuel – pile on new truth, search the Scriptures, feed my soul. The blasts of Hell will seek to quench the flame if I don't guard the fire in my own heart."

In a vision John Bunyan saw a man throwing water on a flame, and yet the flame continued to burn. He wondered how it could burn on – until he saw that there was one

behind the door pouring oil on the flame. Oil is a picture of the Holy Spirit, and as long as God keeps pouring Him on our souls nothing can put Him out.

What sputtering little sparks we are, when actually as His witnesses, we should be aflame with the love of God!

PRAY: Ask God to set you afire for Him. If you know of anything standing in the way, remove it today.

DAY 3

***God makes His ministers a flaming fire.
Psalm 104:4***

In 1665 London was in the grip of that terrible Plague the horrors of which may still be felt through the pages of Defoe. The disease germs were hiding and breeding and multiplying everywhere. Every corner became a nest of contagion. Nothing could be found to displace it. In the following year the Great Fire broke out, and the plague-smitten city was possessed by the spirit of burning. London was literally baptized with fire, which sought out the most secret haunts of the contagion, and in the fiery baptism the evil genius of corruption gave place to the sweet and friendly genius of health. Fire accomplished quite easily what water would never have attained. And so in a comparison of fire and water as cleansing and redeeming agencies, common experience tells us that fire is the keener, the more searching, the more powerful, the more intense.

PRAY: Ask God to send His Spirit to search out and remove each and every sin in the furthest corners of your heart. Ask Him to purify you from all sin.

DAY 4

Ezek 1:24 When the creatures moved, I heard the sound of their wings, like the roar of rushing waters, like the voice of the Almighty, like the tumult of an army. When they stood still, they lowered their wings.

When men would go into mines, caves or even well shafts, there was always the

danger that deadly gasses had accumulated in the lowest parts. These gasses couldn't be noticed by smell. It was only when one passed out that danger was seen and then it was too late. Thus a method was developed to save lives.

The first man into the depths would carry a canary or other bird in a cage along with him. Being smaller and more sensitive, if there was any danger in the air the bird would first sense it and die. Then the handler would be alerted and could leave before he was overcome. By exploding powder and burning the fumes out of the air it could be purified. Then work could go on. However it took the sensitive bird to alert the men to danger.

In a wonderful way the believer has One in his heart who bears witness to the presence and power of sin. I refer to the Holy Spirit, the heavenly Dove. As the Holy Spirit He is infinitely conscious of the pollution of sin. That is why we are warned to not quench or grieve Him. We are to listen carefully to His warnings of danger for He will notice the first faint odor of coming sin and warn us so we can flee before being overcome. Are you listening to His voice? Do you know what it sounds like? Can you recognize the first flutterings of His conviction? How dangerous it is to ignore His warning!

PRAY: Quietly listen to the Spirit in your soul. What is He saying to you today? What danger is ahead? Ask Him to speak and warn you of danger you face, then promise to heed His warnings.

15. HE MATURES US

Phil 1:6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. II Pt 3:18

Brothers, I could not address you as spiritual but as worldly -- mere infants in Christ. I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere men? I Corinthians 3:1-3

When I was like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. I Cor 13:11

I. HOLY SPIRIT WORKS FROM WITHIN TO MAKE US LIKE JESUS

BREATH OF THE ALMIGHTY

Job 32:8 But it is the spirit in a man, the breath of the Almighty, that gives him understanding.

Job 33:4 The Spirit of God has made me; the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

Like Holy Spirit, proceeds from God but unseen force

Direct emanation, manifestation of God's presence in His invisible, heavenly actions

God's breath put life into the first man, Adam – puts life into us, too

Gives spiritual life to sinners

God breathes, Holy Spirit is the breath He sends to us

HOLY SPIRIT WHO IS IN YOU

1 Cor 6:18-20 Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. 19 Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; 20 you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

HOLY SPIRIT IN US – only way to be like Jesus - If He not in us no chance!

TEMPLE – God not in physical building, but in US!!!

Paul tells Corinthians to take care of temple, don't use it for sin (sexual sin)

NEW WINE

Eph 5:18-20 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. 19 Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, 20 always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

PENTECOST (Acts 2) – thought disciples drunk when really Holy Spirit

PARALLEL: Wine & Holy Spirit

- changed behavior and speech, courage,
- don't put new wine in old wineskins (Mt 9:16-17) –

Matt 9:16-17 16 "No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment, for the patch will pull away from the garment, making the tear worse. 17 Neither do men pour new wine into old wineskins. If they do, the skins will burst, the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved."

HELPER

John 14:16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever-

Greek parakletos: 'helper, comforter, advocate, one called alongside'

John 14:26 But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you

John 15:26 "When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me.

John 16:6-7 But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.

II. HOLY SPIRIT IS OUR CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATION WITH GOD

VOICE OF ALMIGHTY, VOICE OF THE LORD

Ezek 1:24 When the creatures moved, I heard the sound of their wings, like the roar of rushing waters, like the voice of the Almighty, like the tumult of an army. When they stood still, they lowered their wings.

Ezek 10:5 The sound of the wings of the cherubim could be heard as far away as the outer court, like the voice of God Almighty when he speaks.

Ps 29:1-30:1 Ascribe to the LORD, O mighty ones, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness. 3 The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD thunders over the mighty waters. 4 The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is majestic. 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon. 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, Sirion like a young wild ox. 7 The voice of the LORD strikes with flashes of lightning. 8 The voice of the LORD shakes the desert; the LORD shakes the Desert of Kadesh. 9 The voice of the LORD twists the oaks and strips the forests bare. And in his temple all cry, "Glory!" 10 The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD is enthroned as King forever. 11 The LORD gives strength to his people; the LORD blesses his people with peace.

HOLY SPIRIT the person of the Trinity who communicates from God to Man I Pt 1:11 II Pt 1:21
Often God's voice associated with THUNDER (esp in Revelation)

Other times God's voice is STILL & SMALL I Kings 19:12

'Voice from Heaven' when Jesus baptized

HOLY SPIRIT communicates God to us so we can live for Him and be like Him

PRAYER, SUPPLICATION

The principal work of the Spirit is faith ... the principal exercise of faith is prayer.

Rom 8:26-27 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. 27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.

Zech 12:10 "And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.

III. HOLY SPIRIT HELPS US KEEP GOING BY CLEANSING & REFRESHING US

SPIRIT OF FIRE

Isa 4:4 The Lord will wash away the filth of the women of Zion; he will cleanse the bloodstains from Jerusalem by a spirit of judgment and a spirit of fire.

FIRE in our bones comes from Holy Spirit - Jeremiah 5:14; 20:9

PENTECOST Holy Spirit came as fire Acts 2:3

FIRE: cleanses, shines, motivates us to move ahead

Spirit of FIRE MOTIVATES us to be more like Jesus

WATER

Zech 14:8 On that day living water will flow out from Jerusalem, half to the eastern sea and half to the western sea, in summer and in winter.

'Living Water' will flow from Jerusalem, picture of JESUS HIMSELF flowing out everywhere

John 4:10 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

Jesus said this was a picture of HIM

Eph 5:26 to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word,

WATER USED FOR REFRESHING – good cold drink invigorates

Holy Spirit refreshes, encourages, invigorates

WATER USED FOR CLEANSING – wash when dirty
Holy Spirit cleanses us from sin

STREAMS ON THE DRY GROUND

Isa 44:3 For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.

Isaiah 44 about distant future (to Isaiah) – when Messiah on earth

Israel like parched desert when Christ returns

Spirit flow so freely will seem like cold mountain stream covering hot sand

JEWS are the parched ground, dry and lifeless, thirsty for so long forgotten anything else

STREAMS OF LIVING WATER

John 7:37-39 On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him." 39 By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

REFRESHING comes from Holy Spirit within!

Takes up residence in our inner being

Flows with an inexhaustible supply

Brings the life of God to the soul

Satisfies the deep thirst inside every heart (ONLY way to have it met)

Flows out to refresh others (share Jesus with everyone we meet)

IV. HOLY SPIRIT GIVES US REST DURING THE PROCESS OF BECOMING LIKE JESUS

SPIRIT OF REST

Isa 63:14 14 like cattle that go down to the plain, they were given rest by the Spirit of the LORD. This is how you guided your people to make for yourself a glorious name.

Referring to entering the land of Canaan under JOSHUA

God in His grace gave them REST

Many years of battles before this, but rest during and after the battles

A CONFIDENTIAL SPIRITUAL-LIFE CHECKUP

As your pastor I am responsible to God for your spiritual health in much the same way your doctor is responsible for your physical health. both of us must be allowed the privilege of helping you. Often, unless a problem so overcomes you that you must seek help from your doctor or pastor, you don't take time for a

regular check-up. This can correct small problems before they grow. You probably have a periodical check-up with your doctor, why not with your pastor? I'd like to sit down with you for about an hour and check your spiritual health. Perhaps together we can help improve your spiritual diet and life.

Since pastors (or doctors) can only help to the extent you allow them, this is entirely voluntary. Before your doctor can evaluate your physical health he does blood work on you. Before getting together with me (or even if you don't), do some spiritual blood work on yourself. Answer the questions on this paper. Put your answers on another paper. Please get this to me several days before we get together so I can prayerfully consider how we can best spend our hour together. Pray about this, and for God to use this in your life.

I. BLOOD TYPE: (Basic grouping of all mankind.)

1. Are you a Christian?

2. How do you know if you are a Christian or not?

II. RED BLOOD CELLS (They provide strength and health for your whole body.)

3. How meaningful is your private worship and devotions?

4. In what ways are you becoming better acquainted with God?

5. In what areas is your Bible knowledge growing most?

6. In what areas of Bible knowledge do you feel you are too weak?

III. WHITE BLOOD CELLS (They fight disease and bring cleansing.)

7. In what ways are you becoming a more accepting, loving person?

8. Is there anyone who have a hard time forgiving?

9. How are you growing stronger in your ability to resist temptation?

10. How healthy and balanced is your self-esteem?

11. What kinds of sin seem to defeat you most often and why?

IV. PLATELETS (These are blood clotters which stop wounds from bleeding.)

12. Who do you go to when you need someone to help bear the burdens of life?

13. With whom do you feel most comfortable sharing your inner joys and hurts?
14. How do you handle it when someone criticizes or tears you down?
15. How do you usually handle failure?

V. BLOOD PRESSURE (Shows hypertension, stress and stamina.)

16. How preoccupied are you with your finances?
17. How distracted are you by the desire for things?
18. How satisfied are you with your vocation and present position?
19. What could you do to better exercise your spiritual gifts within the Body of Christ?
20. What problems do you encounter in telling others about your faith?
21. How do you usually deal with pressure?

VI. TIRED BLOOD (Results from imbalanced spiritual diet.)

22. How would you evaluate the balance in your life (time for self, family, God, career; exercise, rest, fun, personal growth, etc.)?
23. Evaluate your balance of Bible study, worship, fellowship and outreach to unbelievers?
24. What is the biggest problem you face in being all God wants you to be?
25. What do you think God wants you to do about it?
26. Is there anything specific you would like me to do to help you during our time together?

DAILY DEVOTIONS

WEEK 16

DAY 1

Ps 119:18 Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.

It is astounding to know what biblical insight a humble, unschooled child of God can have through the illumination of the Holy Spirit. He can perceive and enjoy Bible truths that even the most brilliant and educated men and women of the world cannot begin to appreciate. Unbelievers are spiritually blind (I Cor 2:9-10). Spiritual things seem dull and foolish to him.

When a person is born again, the indwelling Holy Spirit gives him special understanding. He can apprehend the truths of the Word of God and appreciate its beauty and revelation in a meaningful and blessed way. He will see wonderful things in Scripture that are completely unnoticed by those who are spiritually blind.

Charles Spurgeon often told this story: "A lady once said to Turner while he was painting, 'Why do you put such extravagant colors into your pictures? I never see anything like them in nature.' 'Don't you wish you did, madam?' he said. It was a sufficient answer. He saw them, even if she did not. Likewise, believers can perceive many divine wonders which unbelievers cannot."

As you read your Bible rely upon the Holy Spirit. Be thankful that with His help you can understand what you are reading. Scriptural insight is available only to those with spiritual eyesight. Remember, the Spirit of God enables the man of God to understand the Word of God.

PRAY: Thank God for His Word, and the Spirit that helps you understand it. Read a portion for the next few minutes, allowing His Spirit to speak through it to you.

DAY 2

John 10:3 to his own sheep the porter opens the door of the sheepfold.

This brief sentence in Jesus' well-known discourse on the "Good Shepherd" is often overlooked by the casual reader. Everyone knows that the "sheep" refer to the elect ones, and that the "Door" of the fold is Christ, but who is the "porter"? Some think that God the Father is here indicated. While this is possible, most students of the Word believe it refers to the Holy Spirit for it would appear from the Scripture that the third Person of the Trinity is ever closely associated with the opening and closing of spiritual doors of blessing and opportunity (Acts 16:6-7, 14; 14:27; 10:44-45; I Cor 16:9; II Cor 2:12).

J. L. Spencer, in commenting on this passage, speaks of the Holy Spirit as a Porter in even a broader sense. He says, "We may read out Bibles, but unless the Porter opens, the voice of the evangelist and the apostles are but a pleasant tale. And then there is that other book – the book of nature – which lies open before us. We hear no sound in the noisy brook, we see nothing in the opening bud and flowers of early summer; but once the Porter opens the door, then suddenly – 'earth's crammed with Heaven, and every common bush afire with the thought of God.' Of if we look upon the pages of history. To the natural man they contain only a record of battles, kings and dynasties; but when the Porter opens wide the door, then we seem to read between the lines. We see how evil haunts the wicked person to destroy him and his seed forever. We see men sowing the wind, and in after years ... reaping the whirlwind! ... So the manifold workings of the Holy Spirit in every successive generation can only be seen when the Porter has opened the door and enlightened our understanding, and given us a right judgment in all things.

The Father draws with cords of love, the Porter (Holy Spirit) opens the door of the

year, and the Good Shepherd (Jesus) enters the fold with His new sheep.

PRAY: Ask God to open your heart to all His truth: in the Bible, in nature (science), in history. Ask Him to show you His hand today in all these areas.

DAY 3

1 Cor 2:12 We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us.

Celluloid. What transforms it, wound on a reel and shelved in a can, into a consuming cinematic experience such as “The Hiding Place” or “Chariots of Fire”? What can turn mere plastic into pathos, poetry and praise, evoking emotions of grief, gratitude and gladness, all in living color? Three factors: light, focus and motion. Light communicates the image imbedded on the celluloid. That image must be focused on a reflective surface. Motion permits the focused image to impart its message and to have its impact. Light, focus and motion allow us to experience God’s Word, not as a collection of old writings but as new reality. God’s Spirit transmits to us the image of Jesus Christ burned into every page of Scripture. Our hearts, our souls, our lives, provide the surface upon which his image is focused and from which He is reflected to the viewing public. Motion – obedience to his commands – transports us into the adventure land of knowing Him.

PRAY: Pray for those you know whose lives God shine through by His Spirit. Thank God for their example. Ask Him to shine through you for His honor and glory.

DAY 4

Every way of a man is right in his own eyes. Proverbs 21:2

Years ago an experiment was made in which people were fitted with special prismatic glasses. These devices caused things to appear upside down. Vision was greatly distorted so that straight lines

appeared to be curved, and sharp outlines seemed fringed with color. Within just a few days, however, the unnatural shapes, tinted edges, and inverted landscapes gradually disappeared, and the world began to appear normal again, even though they still wore their optical fittings. The brain was finally able to overcome the false data that came in through the prismatic lenses. This adaptability in the physical realm is indeed a blessing.

Our Scripture lesson, however, suggests that in the area of the spiritual, the human mind does not function very well. In fact, man is a sinner whose deepest imaginations are evil, and his thought-life produces a world of illusions. He thinks of himself as pure when in reality he is guilty before God. That is why, for example, many people today have shifted the responsibility for their behavior to environmental factors of to the faulty upbringing they have received from their parents. They fail to see their own rebellion and selfishness. Instead, they imagine themselves to be the helpless, innocent victims of circumstance. This is how they justify thoughts, feelings and actions that are obviously sinful. Their way is right in their own eyes.

Even as Christians, we must be aware of the deceptive nature of our hearts. Allow God’s Spirit to correct your vision through a knowledge of God’s Word.

PRAY: Thank God that He keeps you from seeing good as evil and evil as good. Ask Him to point out any area of life where you may be deceiving yourself so you can confess and cleanse it.

16. HE TEACHES BELIEVERS

I. TEACHING NAMES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Ps 119:18 Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.

TEACHER

John 14:26 But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

John 16:13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

Ever have a verse leap off the page when reading it
HOLY SPIRIT does that with verse – highlights it in your heart
Listening to song, sermon, radio, tape
Something really hit you hard that hadn't before
HOLY SPIRIT doing that

1 Cor 2:13 This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words.

Holy Spirit GIFTS some in body to be able to TEACH

Gives us/them the words to speak

Then works in hearts of listener to apply what is said

JESUS ON EARTH a great teacher, now Holy Spirit does that
even better because within

ANOINTING

1 John 2:20, 27 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth. ... As for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit-just as it has taught you, remain in him.

ANOINTING: at moment of salvation full anointing of Holy Spirit
subsequent anointings during times of special need or personal revival

HUMAN TEACHERS fine, special gift of God to Body
But we aren't dependent on them, I can study on own, so can you

TO KEEP FROM ERROR - I JOHN – warning new believers being deceived
TO TEACH NEW TRUTH

Unbelievers spiritually blinded (2 Cor 4:4)

Before salvation Bible confusing, dull reading

After salvation comes alive, understandable, appetite for it

SPIRIT OF REVELATION

Eph 1:17 I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.

Paul praying for Ephesian believers to understand better how wonderful Jesus is

Also shows how Bible truths fit together, apply to life, etc.

Teach God's World View to replace unbelievers world view

THE FULLNESS OF GOD

Eph 3:19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge-that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

By good Bible study methods can draw out truths and learn facts about God

Takes Holy Spirit to understand Bible at the experiential level

Holy Spirit makes Bible alive in our lives

It is this, not former, that changes lives

SPIRIT OF TRUTH

John 14:17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

All He says is accurate, trustworthy

Nothing shady, deceitful, inaccurate about it

Human teachers all make mistakes, Holy Spirit never does

II. LEARNING NAMES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

SPIRIT OF KNOWLEDGE

***Isa 11:2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him--
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of power,
the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD--***

Enables us to understand about God and His word

First step – enhance our knowledge bank about God

Ask Holy Spirit to teach you before each sermon, time of devotions, etc

DOESN'T REVEAL things unknown but applies and brings to memory what we know

Therefore important to really study, know Bible – make effort to learn it

Then Holy Spirit can apply it, remind of it, etc

ILLUMINATION

1 Cor 2:12 We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us.

Illuminate = turn on light so can see

Unbeliever spiritually BLIND

“the god of this age has blinded the eyes of those who do not believe” II Cor 4:4

SPIRIT OF A SOUND MIND

2 Tim 1:7 7 For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline (sound mind).

TIMOTHY timid, fearful – Paul says this isn’t from Holy Spirit

Power, love, self-discipline are from God

Soundness, self-discipline is how Holy Spirit works

We think it means out of control (slain in the spirit, dancing inisles)

Bible says all things are to be done decently and in order

SPIRIT OF UNDERSTANDING

***Isa 11:2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him--
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of power,
the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD--***

WISDOM = practical insight for living, application of God’s Word principles

Proverbs focuses on these

Christian World View = God’s wisdom (I Corinthians 1 – 3)

UNDERSTANDING = idea of keen judgment, ability to make good decisions

Ability to have insight between two options, opinions, etc

Can’t always tell by outside info – decision to make, new teaching to accept, etc

Holy Spirit knows more than we do, shares that with us.

Necessary in making many decisions

Eph 1:17 I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.

Paul praying for Ephesians to have insight into God and how He works, which comes from HS

ALL believers have Holy Spirit

NOT all believers experience full effect of His ministry

Paul wants his Ephesians friends (there very long, very close to them) to have all

Holy Spirit reveals God and the things of God to us

Ps 103:7 He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel:

Moses had a deeper knowledge of God than the average Israelite

ALL crossed Red Sea, but only MOSES ascended Mt Sinai to speak with God

‘know’ - Paul wants them to KNOW God, not just know ABOUT God

Know who He is, how He works, what His purpose is for world and them

God
Greek – not intellectual knowledge only, but mainly deep, personal, practical knowledge of

world view: “know yourself” to find self and meaning/purpose

Christian world view: “know God” to know self and find meaning/purpose

Luke 24:32 They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

Taught their minds first of all

Luke 24:45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.

Then applied those facts to their hearts

SPIRIT OF WISDOM

Ex 28:3 Tell all the skilled men to whom I have given wisdom in such matters that they are to make garments for Aaron, for his consecration, so he may serve me as priest.

Wisdom – viewing life from God’s perspective (world view)

Ability to correctly apply all the facts or knowledge have learned

Knowledge – teaches facts

Wisdom – applies those facts

III. HOW THE HOLY SPIRIT TEACHES

PRINCIPLE OF READINESS

Teach truths as people are ready for them (or develop desire in them to learn)

God teaches us when we are ready for it

PRINCIPLE OF VARIETY

I use variety: words, PP, objects, poster, handouts, discussion, etc.

PRINCIPLE OF LIFE RESPONSE

I don’t teach just to expand your knowledge but to have you apply that to changed lives

PRINCIPLE OF NEW FRONTIERS

Never know everything, always something new to teach

Holy Spirit never stops, lifetime of learning, applying

Always pushing our frontiers back

DAILY DEVOTIONS **WEEK 17**

DAY 1

I discipline myself to always have a clear conscience void of offense toward God and men. Acts 24:16

An Indian was asked by a missionary to define the word “conscience.” After thinking a moment, the man pointed a finger at his breast and said, “It is a little three-cornered thing in here. When I do evil, it turns around and hurts very much, but if I keep on doing wrong, its sharp edges wear off until it doesn’t bother me anymore.” Though crudely stated, his definition was both wise and accurate, for one’s conscience can be impaired if he disregards its warning and continues in his sinful practices. If abused, it becomes “seared” and useless (1 Timothy 4:2). Therefore a person must never callously allow himself to mute its pleadings.

Valuable as this “internal monitor” may be, however, we must admit that it has become impaired by man’s fall into sin. No longer can it be an infallible guide to right conduct unless it is first enlightened and sensitized by the Scriptures! Only then can we safely follow its leading.

When a Christian finds this inner voice accusing him of having injured his neighbor, he should ask forgiveness and make the necessary restitution to the one he has offended. At other times he may be troubled in his heart because in some hidden way he has displeased the Savior; he must then confess his sin if he would have “a conscience void of offence toward God and men.”

PRAY: Ask God to activate your conscience so it is sensitive to God’s Spirit and an accurate instrument in His hands. Pray this would happen to your children as well.

DAY 2

John 15:2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.

Dr. Paul Brand was speaking to a medical college in India on “Let your light so shine before men that they may behold your good works and glorify your Father.” In front of the lectern was an oil lamp, with its cotton wick burning from the shallow dish of oil. As he preached, the lamp ran out of oil, the wick burned dry, and the smoke made him cough. He immediately used the opportunity.

“Some of us here are like this wick,” he said. “We’re trying to shine for the glory of God, but we stink. That’s what happens when we use ourselves as the fuel of our witness rather than the Holy Spirit. Wicks can last indefinitely, burning brightly and without irritating smoke, if the fuel, the Holy Spirit, is in constant supply.”

PRAY: If there is smoke coming out of your thoughts or actions, ask God to cleanse you and fill you with His Spirit so He burns brightly in and through you. Thank Him for doing this. Ask Him to show you every time you need to do it again.

DAY 3

John 15: 4-5 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

If you submerge a bottle in water, what happens? Some will say, “The air bubbles out and the water flows in.” But I have seen a bottle submerged in water and no air came out nor did any water flow in. There was a cork in the bottle, which must be pulled out if the bottle is to be submerged.

God is like that with us. He has the purpose and the power, but He will not ravish our beings. Love can never be commanded, and He wants us to love Him, so He woos us by creating all the qualities which go with emptiness and frustration. But when we tell

Him to go ahead and do His work, out come the obstacles which keep Him from filling our beings, and in comes the power of the Holy Spirit, so that life at once takes on abounding quality. There is no abounding without the pressure of His power behind it.

DAY 4

2 Tim 1:7 For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

Dr. Fisher once wrote to his friend Lord Eldon, asking him for a special favor. Lord Eldon answered: "Dear Fisher, I cannot today give you what you ask for. I remain your sincere friend, Eldon. Turn over." Then on the other side he wrote, "I gave it to you yesterday."

Our heavenly Father similarly answers His children when we ask for things which His Spirit has already provided. If we ask for victory over fear, or if we ask for love, or power, or self-discipline, He will rightly tell us that we already have those in the Person of the Holy Spirit Who indwells us. We need only to allow His Spirit to fill us and do His work through us.

PRAY: Allow God to give you love, power, self-discipline and victory over fear today by consciously allowing His Spirit to fill and work through you instead of trying to do these things in your own strength.

DAY 5

John 14:17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

When I was young I was always fascinated by invisible ink. I'd try each new formula looking for the perfect one. Of course there was always a way of having the ink appear. Sometimes it was by applying heat, other times by applying certain chemicals. When this was done the words, which were invisible before, now were clearly seen.

God's Spirit of Truth works that same way. Often we can't see what is really going on around us. We can be blinded by the evil powers behind the sin that attracts us. We can be misled by the world's seeming 'wisdom' in making decisions. We can be swayed by ungodly values, priorities and goals. We often don't even know what is happening. That is, we don't know until the Holy Spirit reveals to our hearts what is really going on: the sin, the evil, the deception, the self-centeredness that has been trying to take us captive. When He reveals that to our hearts it is up to us to 'read the writing' and act appropriately.

PRAY: Ask Him to clearly reveal to you and sin, deception or self-centeredness that is going on in your life. Pray for your family and those around you as well. Thank Him for being the only one who knows the formula to expose the works of sin and Satan today.

17. HE PRODUCES IN BELIEVERS

Eph 5:8-10 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light 9(for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth)

Gal 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

Gal 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is
love, SPIRIT OF LOVE
joy, SPIRIT OF PRAISE
peace, SPIRIT OF REST
patience, STEADFAST SPIRIT
kindness, YOUR GENEROUS SPIRIT
goodness, - YOUR GOOD SPIRIT
faithfulness, 23 SERVANT
gentleness and SPIRIT OF GRACE
self-control. SPIRIT OF POWER
Against such things there is no law.

Eph 5:8-10 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light 9(for the fruit of the light consists in all
goodness, YOUR GOOD SPIRIT
righteousness and THE HOLY SPIRIT
truth) THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH, SPIRIT OF WISDOM & UNDERSTANDING

I. IDENTIFYING THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

SPIRIT OF LOVE (LOVE)

2 Tim 1:6-7 For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

II Timothy Paul's last letter, shortly before death, to one like a son to him (closest person to him)
In dungeon in Mamartine Prison awaiting death
Still no fear for Paul – Holy Spirit produced power, love, self-control in him
No bitterness, anger, revenge – just LOVE (fruit of Holy Spirit)
Only way we can love others (as commanded) is by Holy Spirit (Colossians 1:8)
Encouragement to Timothy, too, to live in love for others
Tim susceptible to fear, worry, stomach pain from stress, etc

SPIRIT OF PRAISE (JOY)

1 Cor 14:15 So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my mind; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my mind.

sing with my spirit – no ‘my’ – lit “sing with the Spirit”

Holy Spirit sings praises to Jesus

Holy Spirit puts songs in our hearts, motivates us to sing, directs praise

SPIRIT OF REST (PEACE)

Isa 63:14 14 like cattle that go down to the plain, they were given rest by the Spirit of the LORD. This is how you guided your people to make for yourself a glorious name.

STEADFAST SPIRIT (PATIENCE)

Ps 51:10 Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Steadfast = dependable, faithful, consistent

Work of Holy Spirit within to make us that way

FAITHFULNESS = fruit of Holy Spirit

YOUR GENEROUS SPIRIT (KINDNESS)

Ps 51:12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Lit ‘GENEROUS’ – liberal in giving or sharing

God “freely gives us all things”

Sign of being like Jesus is also being generous with our time, talents and treasures

YOUR GOOD SPIRIT (GOODNESS)

Neh 9:20 You gave your good Spirit to instruct them. You did not withhold your manna from their mouths, and you gave them water for their thirst.

Refers to God’s GOODNESS

Holy Spirit committed to producing goodness in our lives

SERVANT (FAITHFULNESS)

Gen 24:34 So he said, "I am Abraham's servant.

Abraham sent servant to get bride for his son, Isaac

TYPE OF GOD, sending HOLY SPIRIT to get bride (church) for His Son, JESUS

Servant brings bride to groom (Isaac), like Spirit brings us closer to Jesus (cleanse)

THE SPIRIT OF GRACE (GENTLENESS)

Zech 12:10 *"And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.*

Graciousness – unmerited favor

God gracious to us, To be like HIM we must be gracious to others, too

SPIRIT OF POWER (SELF-CONTROL)

Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Eph 3:16 *I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being,*

Paul prayed for all of his people to be filled with power by Holy Spirit

Good for us to pray for selves, others

2 Tim 1:7 *For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.*

Fear (timidity) opposite of power

THE HOLY SPIRIT (RIGHTEOUSNESS)

Rom 1:4 *and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Most common name of Holy Spirit – 94 times in Bible

HOLY – 'separate' 'cut off'

Holiness = separation FROM sin

Separation TO God

THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH (TRUTH)

John 14:17 *the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.*

Truth, integrity – developed in our lives by Holy Spirit

To be like Jesus = 100% INTEGRITY

SPIRIT OF WISDOM & UNDERSTANDING (TRUTH)

Isa 11:2 *The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD--*

WISDOM = seeing things from God's point of view (Christian world view)

UNDERSTANDING = insight, perspective to make right decisions

Holy Spirit gives us the wisdom, insight, ideas, perspective

II. BEARING THE FRUIT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

John 15:1-17

1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. 5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. 9 "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. 10 If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. 11 I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. 12 My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command. 15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. 16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit-- fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. 17 This is my command: Love each other.

I. THE PRODUCER: GARDNER & VINE

A. THE TRUE VINE 1

1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.

True = genuine, real

Israel pictured as vine, God as owner/gardner

"The vine lives to give its lifeblood to the branch."

B. THE UNFRUITFUL BRANCHES 2-3

2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.

The whole purpose of the branch is to BEAR FRUIT

Wood no good for building, furniture, anything

C. THE FRUITFUL BRANCHES 4-6

4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.

Remain, abide, continue, cling to

Analogy: branch to vine, us to Christ

Same SAP shared between vine & branch (Jesus & us)

Sap =HOLY SPIRIT

II. THE PROCESS: ABIDE & OBEY (THE CONDITIONS)

A. ABIDE 7a, 9b

7a If you remain in me

9b Now remain in my love.

B. OBEY 7b, 10a

7b and my words remain in you

10a If you obey my commands

III. THE PRODUCT: FRUIT OF LOVE (THE RESULTS)

Fruit 8b, 16a

8b bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

16a I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit

II. INCREASING THE FRUIT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. THE PRINCIPLE OF LIKE PRODUCES LIKE

God made everything to produce "after its own kind" (Gen 1:12, 24)

Holy Spirit the seed, produces fruit in us in keeping with what He is like

Let Holy Spirit have control in heart, know will produce fruit like Him

See Christ-likeness in believer, know it is the Holy Spirit within causing it

Rom 6:16 Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey-whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?

2. PRINCIPLE OF SOIL COMPOSITION

Parable of sower and seed show relationship between fruit bearing of the seed sown and the soil in which the seed was planted

Different plants grow better in different kinds of soils

Plant draws from soil, so fruit is product of soil, influenced by soil it is in

Christians draw from soil we are planted in, too

-abide in Spirit (John 15:5-7)

-walk in the spirit (Gal 5:16)

Holy Spirit is the soil we are planted in

When we don't abide/remain/walk in Him like uprooted plant

Can't grow spiritually, shrivel and fade spiritually

Transplant self into world, self – fruit shows it!
Must be planted in the Spirit to produce fruit of the Spirit!

3. PRINCIPLE OF THE EARLY AND LATTER RAIN

Fruit is produced throughout a growing season that includes times of rain and sunshine.

Rain all the time – seeds drown, plants rot

Sunshine all the time – drought, death

Takes BALANCE of the two for mature crop

James 5:7 Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains.

God uses various seasons in our lives to mature us

Some apparently good, others apparently bad (all things work for good –Rom 8:28)

4. THE PRINCIPLE OF WEEDING

Jesus, about parable of sower and seed, some seeds not mature because choked by weeds

Matt 13:7 Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants.

Constant weeding necessary throughout growing season in order for full harvest

When weeds dominate, no fruit

The more the weeds, the less the fruit

Same true spiritually

WEEDS: Jesus said they were “cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches” Mt 13:22

Tares sown by the enemy (Mt 13:24-30, 36-43)

Always take time to weed your life – CONFESS AND REMOVE SIN IN LIFE

I John 1:9 - confess

5. THE PRINCIPLE OF PRUNING

Pruning – cutting away parts of the plant that do not produce fruit, so remaining plant will produce more fruit or stronger fruit.

God works in many ways to produce fruit in us

Pruning areas not needed or good for us Holy Spirit job

-sinful areas to be removed

-not sinful, but still not best use of our time or resource

DAILY DEVOTIONS

WEEK 18

DAY 1

Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ Who strengthens me.

A small boy was taken to the barbershop for a haircut. The room was filled with cigar smoke. The lad pinched his nose and exclaimed, "Who's been smoking in here!" the barber sheepishly confessed, "I have, son." The tyke responded, "Don't you know it isn't good for you?" "I know," the barber replied. "I've tried to quit a thousand times, but I just can't." The boy thought for a moment and then commented, "I understand, sir. I've tried to stop sucking my thumb, but I can't either!"

Those two remind me of the way believers sometimes feel about their struggle with the sins of the flesh. Paul summed it up well in Romans 7:12-25. "Oh wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" (Rom 7:24). Earlier in Romans 7 he described the conflict he experienced within himself. His spiritual warfare might have left him in despair if he had not found the solution. Following this agonizing question, he declared with triumph, "I thank God through Jesus Christ, our Lord."

Are you struggling to break some stubborn habit or sin? Like Paul, we can be an overcomer. We don't have to say with that barber and little boy, "I've tried to quit a thousand times, but I just can't." If you know the Lord Jesus as your Savior, victory is possible through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit. Confidently affirm with the apostle, "I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me." Just think less of the power of things over you and more of the power of Christ in you.

PRAY: Ask God to give you victory over that nagging habit or sin. Thank Him for caring enough to even help with this.

DAY 2

Gal 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

A young Italian boy knocked at the door of an artist's studio in Rome. When it was opened, he exclaimed, "Please, madam, will you give me the master's brush?" The painter had died, and the boy, inflamed with the longing to be an artist, wished for the great man's touch. The lady placed the requested item in the youth's hand, saying, "This is his brush; try it, my boy." With a flush of earnestness on his face, he made a supreme effort but soon found he could paint no better with it than with his own. The lady then said, "Remember, my child, you cannot imitate the great master unless you have his spirit." So, too, men who have never been born again are doomed to disappointment and failure when they attempt to wield the brush of faith and good works without the indwelling Spirit of Christ.

Is there something you are trying on your own and failing at? Ask God to equip you with His Spirit. Ask Him to show you areas where He has already gifted and equipped you, so you can use these areas in His service.

DAY 3

Rom 12:6-8 We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. 7 If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; 8 if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him

govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

People can ask, “how do I know the Holy Spirit is living in me?” We can know in the same way that we know there is music on a cassette tape, even though we can’t see the music on the tape. We can know in one of two ways. We can believe the label which says there is music on it, or we can play the tape and hear the music for ourselves.

Similarly we know the Holy Spirit indwells us by believing God and His Word which tells us that He does. Or we can look at the results in our lives since we have been living for Him.

How has your life changed since you put Him first and committed to living for Him? Can you take the credit for that yourself? If not, who gets the credit?

What talents, skills and spiritual gifts has He given you to use in His ministry? Can you take credit for these yourself? If you decide to be a worship leader, or pianist, or teacher – can you do these things just because you decide to do them? It is only as the Spirit enables that we are able to do anything for Jesus.

PRAY: Thank God for the way He is visibly seen in changing your life in the past. Thank Him for the talents and spiritual gifts He has given you to use in His service. Ask Him to help you continue to faithfully use them for Him each day.

DAY 4

John 4:10 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

Those who grew up on the Canadian prairies knew what it was like to live in a land where water was scarce. Water was stored in cisterns. When the cistern got low, a wagon carrying a water tank was brought in.

It took a lot of hard tedious dripping with a pail on the end of a ten foot pole to fill the tank and get the water into the cistern. Water was also directed into the cistern from the rain gutters on the roof.

Every spring the cistern had to be cleaned out because the water would become stagnant. That, too, was hard work. How much better it was if someone could build on land by a spring, or was able to dig a well. Going right to the source of the fresh, clean water was much better than hauling and cleaning and drinking somewhat stagnant water all the time.

PRAY: Thank God for a fresh source of spiritual water in you – the Holy Spirit. Ask Him to make sure that never a day goes by that you don’t thank Him for His precious gift of His Spirit.

DAY 5

Now that this series is almost over, think back over what you have learned. Write down below some of the things that stand out most to you, things about the Holy Spirit you want to remember and apply for the rest of your life.

18. HE GIFTS BELIEVERS

SPIRITUAL GIFTS are by Holy Spirit working in us,
EACH SPIRITUAL GIFT is also a NAME OF THE HOLY SPIRIT for He produces them in us

Apostleship – WITNESS, SPIRIT OF WISDOM

Prophecy – SPIRIT OF PROPHECY

Discerning Of Spirits - SPIRIT OF WISDOM

Teaching – COUNSELOR, TEACHER

Word Of Knowledge – SPIRIT OF KNOWLEDGE

Word Of Wisdom - SPIRIT OF WISDOM

Tongues – VOICE OF THE LORD

Interpretation Of Tongues – SPIRIT OF UNDERSTANDING

Miracles – POWER, HIM WHO RAISED JESUS FROM THE GRAVE, OMNIPOTENT

Healing - POWER

Ruling (Leadership) – SPIRIT THAT WAS UPON MOSES

Helps (Mercy, Hospitality, Etc) - COMFORTER, HELPER

CHARISMA

Rom 12:6-8 We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. 7 If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; 8 if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

1 Cor 12:4-11 There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. 6 There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men.

7 Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. 8 To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, 10 to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. 11 All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.

1 Cor 12:28-30 And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are

all teachers? Do all work miracles? 30 Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?

Eph 4:10-13 It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, 12 to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

The word charisma, with a single exception (1 Peter 4:10), occurs in the New Testament only in the Pauline Epistles, and in the plural form is employed in a technical sense to denote extraordinary gifts of the Spirit bestowed upon Christians to equip them for the service of the church. Various lists of the charismata are given (Rom 12:6-8; 1 Cor 12:4-11,28-30; compare Eph 4:7-12), none of which, it is evident, are exhaustive.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS At the moment of salvation one of the many blessings we receive are spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 12) These are enablements the Spirit provides for each one. Just as each person has a unique set of talents, each believer has a unique set of spiritual gifts. These are different than talents. These are special skills/abilities that God's Holy Spirit gives each believer to minister to others in the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:4-31).

Spiritual gifts are not given to be used for one's own benefit. They are for the purpose of ministering to others in the Body of Christ (Ephesians 4:12). If you're not using your gift, other Christians around you aren't benefitting as they should.

Each believer has a unique combination of gifts. Just like three colors, yellow, red and blue, are blended in various combinations to form thousands of colors, so these basic gifts are blended with others to form a unique combination in each believer. No two of us are gifted exactly alike.

Pastor: The gift of pastor is the special ability to assume a long-term personal responsibility for the spiritual welfare of a group of believers.

Teaching: The gift of teaching is the special ability to communicate information relevant to the health and ministry of the body and its members in such a way that others will learn.

Preaching: The gift of preaching is the special ability to proclaim the written Word with clarity and to apply it to a particular situation with a view to correction or edification and spiritual growth.

Leadership: The gift of leadership is the special ability to set goals in accordance with God's purpose for the future and to communicate these goals to others in such a way that they voluntarily and harmoniously work together to accomplish these goals for the glory of God.

Evangelism: the gift of evangelism is the special ability to proclaim the Good News of salvation effectively so that individuals or groups of people may respond to the claims of Christ in conversion and discipleship.

Missionary: the gift of missionary is the special ability to minister whatever other spiritual gifts they have in a second culture.

Administration: The gift of administration is the special ability to understand clearly the immediate and long-range goals of a particular unit of the body of Christ and to devise and execute plans for the accomplishment of those goals.

Knowledge: The gift of knowledge is the special ability to observe Biblical facts and make conclusions, to study and understand the Bible in a special, deep way.

Wisdom: The gift of wisdom is the special ability to know the mind of the Holy Spirit in such a way as to receive insight into how given knowledge may be applied to specific needs arising in the Body of Christ.

Service: The gift of service is the special ability to identify the unmet needs involved in a task related to God's work and to make use of available resources to meet those needs and help accomplish the desired results.

Mercy: The gift of mercy is the special ability to feel genuine empathy and compassion for individuals who suffer distressing physical, mental or emotional problems and to translate that compassion into cheerfully done deeds that reflect Christ's love and alleviate the suffering.

Helps: The gift of helps is the special ability to invest the talents they have in the life and ministry of other members of the Body so the other can increase the effectiveness of their spiritual gifts.

Giving: The gift of giving is the special ability to contribute material resources to the work of the Lord with liberality and cheerfulness.

Hospitality: The gift of hospitality is the special ability to provide an open house and a warm welcome to those in need of food and lodging.

Encouragement: The gift of encouragement is the special ability to minister words of comfort, consolation, encouragement and counsel to other members of the Body in such a way that they feel helped and healed.

Faith: The gift of faith is the special ability to exercise a supernatural capacity for believing God.

Intercession: The gift of intercession is the special ability to pray for extended periods of time on a regular basis and see frequent and specific answers to their prayers (to a degree much greater than that which is expected of the average Christian).

Discernment: The gift of discernment is the special ability to know with assurance whether certain behavior or truth purported to be of God is in reality divine, human or satanic.

Exorcism: The gift of exorcism is the special ability to understand Satan's workings and know how to stop the work of demons in people's lives.

HOW TO DISCOVER YOUR GIFTS First, get to work helping and serving others in any way you can. You will find some ways easier and more enjoyable than others. There will be some areas of service which others recognize as being something you are good at and they will ask you to minister in those ways. You won't be able to do everything, and you won't be good at everything you try. But those ways of ministering to others which you enjoy and are good at are the ways God has gifted you. It will be a combination of the gifts listed above and is different for everyone.

When you find areas where you are able to serve with good results learn more about them and look for more opportunities to perform these things. Find others who seem to be good at one of the things you can do and like to do. Learn from them how to better minister in these ways. Dedicate these abilities to God and use them. You will continue to improve throughout your whole life as you serve Jesus and others in the family of God.