

The Holy Spirit Will Lead You

I. Introduction

Through His son, Jesus Christ, we can be born again and receive Him, who is the “uncorrupted seed”, into our heart; we can become united with Him in baptism, then we are able to break free from the “law of sin and death” that holds us in captivity.

Becoming the new creation.

Last month, we talked about becoming the new creation. (See my program notes) Once we have received Jesus (by faith), we have received a new seed, one that has no corruption in it, and this righteous seed joins with me and brings about a “new creation”. I now have become united with the Christ, and His life (that is indestructible and eternal in nature) wants to touch every part of my being and bring about a growing freedom and wholeness within me.

This month I want to talk about the Holy Spirit and its role in helping us to fully become the new creation. In particular, the importance of allowing the Holy Spirit to lead us and just how this happens. God promises to send the Holy Spirit and put His Spirit within us, so that we may become fully alive.

I will put my Spirit within you, and you will come to life, and I will place you on your own land (Ezekiel 37:14).

It is the Spirit who gives life... (John 6:63).

Do we know the presence of the Holy Spirit within us? Are we being led by the Holy Spirit? Can we trust the Holy Spirit to lead us? How does the Holy Spirit lead us? Where do we look for the Holy Spirit’s leading?

Pray

Do you need to hear from God? Is there a place within you that hungers and thirsts for more in your spiritual walk and experience with the Lord? Do you long to hear and recognize God’s voice as He speaks personally to you?

Pray for the Lord to give us boldness to hear His voice, every day and moment by moment. Many times we really are not too anxious to hear Him because of what He might require from us. Eph. 1:18 . **Let’s pray right now:** for a hunger and thirst to know God better and to desire to hear and His Voice.

Lord give us ears to hear, eyes to see and hearts to comprehend. Open our spiritual senses

II. The Holy Spirit, The Promise of The Father

According to Hebrews 1:1-2, in Old Testament times God spoke to His people through the prophets. In New Testament times God spoke to His people through His son, Jesus Christ of Nazareth. Upon His return to the right hand of God, the Father promised to pour out the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:33).

The promise of the Father is that he would send the Holy Spirit and that the Holy Spirit would be in us and would lead us and guide us.

I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever:...you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you (John 14:16-17).

The Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name...(John 14:26a).

Do you not know that you are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you (I Cor. 3:16).

He gives the Spirit without measure (John 3:36)

A. Who Is The Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is the same person who brooded over the waters, who came down upon Jesus when He was baptized, who was upon the prophets of old, and who filled the people at Pentecost. It is the Holy Spirit of Power. The Holy Spirit is the power of God and is here for many purposes, including teacher, guide, comforter, leader.

The Third Person Of The Trinity

Many people are confused about the Holy Spirit. We mistake Jesus for the Holy Spirit, or the Holy Spirit for the Father. Jesus is seated at the right hand of the Father, (yes he is with us through His Spirit, inside of us, that is how we are united with Him); yet, He is seated in heaven at the right hand of the Father. The Father is also seated in heaven. The Holy Spirit, the third Person of the trinity, is here on earth, and He is here for a purpose.

The Holy Spirit is a Person, it is not a force, power, or energy. As the third Person of the trinity, he has feelings (Ephesians 4:30), a mind of infinite knowledge (Romans 8:26,27) and a will. He speaks (Acts 13:2; John 16:13). A force or power does not have these attributes and abilities!

Images Of The Person Of The Holy Spirit

The Bible gives us several images for the Holy Spirit that help us understand His work. They are the fire, the wind/breath, the dove.

The Wind & The Fire

At Pentecost there came a *rushing mighty wind*, and *tongues of fire* burned on each individual apostle (out of the wind came fire).

Breath/the wind (*pneuma* in Gr, *Ruach* in Heb.): divine power; the effects or the expression of divine spirit; messenger of God. Jesus taught: "*The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit*" (John 3:7).

Fire: purifying and renewing; because of its power to destroy, it can be understood as a means to rebirth at a higher level.

The Dove

At the baptism of Jesus, the Holy Spirit descended upon Him like a *dove*. Noah sent out doves after the flood and one returned with an olive branch.

Dove: peace; sign of reconciliation with God; the presence of the Holy Spirit.

B. The Working Of The Holy Spirit

In bringing us to salvation, holiness, and wholeness, each part of the Trinity has its work to do. The Father has His, the Son, Jesus Christ, has His, and the Holy Spirit has His. The general working of the Holy Spirit is to edify us, transform us, and lead us, and to fill us with God's power and authority, giving us spiritual gifts.

1. Reveal & bear witness to Jesus

When the Helper comes... whom I will send to you from the Father... who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness of Me (John 15:26)

2. Establish a witness that we belong to God

For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father! The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are the children of God" (Rom. 8:15,16).

Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God, who also sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge (II Cor. 1:21)

3. Teach us all things

The Holy Spirit ... will teach you all things...(John 14:26a).

4. Bring to mind what the Lord has said

He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you (John 14:26).

5. Guide us to truth

...when the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak...(John 16:13).

6. Prepare us for the future

...and He will disclose to you what is to come (John 16:13).

7. Give us a spirit of wisdom & wisdom

The Apostle Paul prays that God...will give them a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him (Ephesians 1:13, 14).

8. Bear witness when we make right decisions

9. Intercede for us according to will of God

The Spirit...intercedes for us...with groanings...according to the will of God (Romans 8:26,27)

10. Help us with our praying

Romans 8:26

11. Convict of sin and righteousness

When He comes, He will convict the world concerning sin, righteousness, and judgment (John 16:8-11).

12. Reveal God's thoughts and words to us

According to the Bible, the Holy Spirit is responsible to reveal God's *thoughts* to us:

I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you (Prov. 1:23).

'Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and which have not entered the heart of man, all that God has prepared for those who love Him.' For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man, which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God.

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that *we might know the things freely given to us by God* (I Cor. 2:9-12).

He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is (Rom. 8:27).

C. The Holy Spirit To Make Us Free

...because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God (Gal. 4:5-7)

...where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty (freedom) (II Cor. 4:15-17).

D. The Holy Spirit To Change And Transform Us

The Holy Spirit is sent to us to help us develop fully into being that new creation. We cannot come into a place of spiritual maturity without the Holy Spirit. We have to have the Holy Spirit there to usher us into it. It is the Spirit alone that can make people live and change—not our cleverness, education, charisma, or personal power.

The Lord is the Spirit and where the Spirit of the Lord is there is liberty. But we all with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being

transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit (II Cor. 3:17-18).

The Holy Spirit does the work. He is the teacher, the guide, He reveals Jesus Christ in us and guides us into the truth. No one can guide a person into a place of spiritual maturity. I can point to the way, but it is the Holy Spirit who must teach you and guide you into the fullness of whatever the Lord has for you. This is the work of the Holy Spirit. We must go to the Holy Spirit and allow Him to teach us.

E. We Must Respond To the Holy Spirit

In the journey to spiritual growth, inner healing and wholeness, the presence and activity of the power of the Holy Spirit working within us is essential—perhaps more important than the laying on of hands, inner healing prayers, and gifts of the Spirit. However, the growth depends somewhat upon how responsive we are to the Holy Spirit, this teacher who God gives us. The Holy Spirit causes the spiritual senses to flourish within us. He teaches us how to begin to see spiritually, hear spiritually, speak spiritually, and respond spiritually to the things of God.

We must become more reliant upon the Holy Spirit to do a wonderful work in us. We must rely upon Him to receive revelation and the different things He has to offer us. In relying upon this spiritual part of our being and responding and functioning from it, we are developing a new way of thinking. Our emotional being is not such a shipwreck anymore, something wonderful happens in our emotions too. We are literally being transformed, and it is restoration.

We Must Be Led By The Holy Spirit

Both Jesus and St. Paul taught that we must learn how to be led by the Spirit. This is a key issue if we ever want to mature spiritually and grow up and break free—from man's religion—and experience something deeper. It's only by the Holy Spirit that this can happen. We must have the boldness and courage to be led by the Spirit, then we will mature spiritually and be transformed. God has made us adequate to be follow and serve the Spirit—but not the letter of the law (II Cor. 3:6). We are capable of being led by the Spirit. We can trust the Holy Spirit!

For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God (Romans 8:14).

Who made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter, but of the Spirit (II Cor. 3:6).

Listen carefully to me...incline your ear and come to me...that you may live (Is. 55: 1-3).

I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you (Prov. 1:23).

But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law (Galatians 5:18).

...walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so you may not do the things that you please. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law... If you are living according to the flesh, you are about to die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live (Romans 8:13)

III. We Can Respond, We Have A Spirit

A. We Are A Spirit-Being Because Made In The Likeness Of God

God breathed in Adam's nostrils the breath of life. God is a spirit and from His Spirit he placed in man an impartation of His Spirit. And man became a living soul, when the spirit touched our flesh, the soul was created.

Made by God

Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, the one who formed you (was with me) from the womb, I, the Lord, am the maker of all things (Is. 44:24).

The Spirit of God has made me, and the breathe of the Almighty gives me life...I belong to God like you; I too have been cut out of clay (Job 33:4-6).

All things came into being through Him and apart from His nothing came into being that has come into being. In Him was life and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness; and the darkness did not comprehend it.

Created in His image

We are created in the image of God, and the presence of God permeates all those same deep spaces in the inner self (Gen. 1:27).

God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness.

And let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.

And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. And God blessed them; and God said to them.

Spirit is the essence of our lives

God is a spirit, so what does it mean to be born in His image? We too are a spirit being, and we carry our spirit within our body. We are spiritual beings and yet we express ourselves through our body. The body is not me, I live inside it. Without the presence of the human spirit, there is death. Death means separation from God.

The body without the spirit is dead; when the human spirit leaves, the body can't live.

That which is born of the spirit is spirit (John 3:6)

The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, searching all the chambers of the belly. (inward parts) (Proverbs 20:27).

We are a spirit being, but we have a soul & live in a physical body. We have an outward man & an inward man. The real us is not the outward man. We need to think of ourselves as spirit-beings, possessing souls and living in bodies.

Functions of the spirit

- *Communion* has to do with a person's capacity to relate to the Ultimate, a relationship with a something transcendent, usually to a supreme being or to creation.
- *Conscience* is a person's ethical guidance system that informs one what is just and fair.
- *Intuition* has to do with the insights that come from within ourselves, giving us knowledge of information without conscious processing—hunches to act, impressions to pray, flashes of insight. (Taken from Watchman Nee, "The Spiritual Man")

B. What Happens In The Born-Again Experience?

Whenever the new birth takes place, something new begins to happen in our lives: We have the potential to become both spiritual and natural. We can now function at the natural level with everyone in the world around us, as well as having the potential to function as a spiritual man, in touch with spiritual things and with God. We are able to see and hear God; see and hear spiritual things, experience and discern spiritual things.

If any person be in Christ, he/she is a new creature; this is more than just justified or forgiven (2Cor 5:17) Our spirit has been born anew, we now have a different spirit

The natural man has all the natural abilities to think and function in this physical realm. The spiritual person has all the spiritual abilities to function in the spiritual realm. The spiritual abilities are all the same as the natural abilities, only they are spiritual. We have natural thinking and spiritual thinking. We have natural emotions and we spiritual emotions. we have natural speech and spiritual speech; natural hearing and spiritual hearing – they are all the same, only one set of them is called spiritual and the others are all natural. For years all we have is the natural; we have nothing more to go on.

God's spirit fused with our spirit Prov. 20:27a

In the born-again experience, it is not just my spirit anymore, but God's Spirit becomes fused with my spirit, causing the new creation. Our spirit doesn't function very well, until it comes into union with God's Spirit; this is how we become sons of God. We have to see there's a clear definition between the Spirit of God and our spirit. We need to see that we are a spiritual Christian because we are in touch with the Spirit of Christ, the Spirit of God, not another spirit.

But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit (with him) I Cor. 6:17

...you also were made to die to the Law through the body of Christ, that you might be joined to another.

And just as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly (I Cor. 15:45-50).

Now we have the potential to become fully what God created us to be – man and spirit combined into one new being. This one new being happens as soon as we have that conversion experience, but we don't come into the fullness of that until many years later – it is not something that happens overnight. When we are first born-again of the Spirit, we are not able

to function as a fully spiritual man. It takes years after that to fully develop. Just like when we are born of the flesh, it takes us years to mature. In the spiritual man, it is the same thing. It takes growth over time.

Developing the spiritual part of our being, makes us become more fully alive and complete than we were before. The growth depends somewhat upon how responsive we are to the Holy Spirit, this teacher who God gives us. The Holy Spirit is sent to us to help us develop fully into being that new creation. He causes the spiritual senses to flourish within us. He teaches us how to begin to see spiritually, how to begin to hear spiritually, how to begin to speak spiritually, and how to begin to respond spiritually to the things of God.

Requires division of soul and spirit

Hebrews 4:12 speaks about the need for the soul and spirit to be divided, because they are alike in their nature and activities. "The word of God is living, active, divides, separates, divides the soul and the Spirit, the bone and the marrow." This scripture shows a definite distinction there between the two. This distinction is very, very important in our spiritual growth, to be able to discern, see, difference between the spiritual person and the natural man.

IV. The Spirit-Man Or Inner Man Has Spiritual Senses

Once we are born again, we have a new creation within us. The new creation gives us access to the Holy Spirit in our spirit. We call it the hidden man in the heart (inner man). This new spirit man has spiritual senses. It is not blind or deaf. It can see the things God reveals to us.

- It can speak; it has a voice – call it intuition, inner guidance, or inward witness, but it is not a matter of listening to voices; it isn't a matter of praying to hear something.
- It can hear, it has ears
- It can see; it has eyes. Through the eyes of the heart we can see and know what God is saying to us. WE can see pictures and images sent by God, in the day or night.
- It has feelings – grieved in spirit, rejoicing in spirit

The spirit man or inner man has spiritual senses or capacities. It can speak; it has a voice: call it inward voice, intuition, inner guidance, or inward witness. It can see: call it visions, spontaneous images and pictures. (Watchman Nee). He conceived the human spirit as "an integrative unity consisting of communion, conscience, and intuition."

A. The Inward Witness (Awareness, or Perception)

Something on the inside that perceives, senses. It can provide us knowledge, confirmation, correction, instruction, guidance. It is sometimes more distinct than others. It is simply a check or a go-ahead signal. It is similar to when the Spirit bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God (Rom. 8:16).

- Intuition – sense prompting of Holy Spirit and voice of God.

- Insight—revelation and illumination

Biblical Example from St Paul

I perceive that this voyage will be with hurt (Acts 27:9,19). The spirit man witnessed to him. Later, St. Paul told the people that they should have listened to him. He didn't say "the Lord told me."

My example

While shopping in Bad Herrenalb, a knowing that I needed to go back up to the clinic, suddenly entered my spirit. I obeyed it, and God had an appointment for me with a woman who needed to know if there was a God.

B. The Inward Voice

This is a little more authoritative than the inward witness. When the Holy Spirit speaks inside of us, it is still an inward voice, but it is so real you almost look around to see who spoke—seems to be an audible voice. We do not hear it with our physical ears.

When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide us into all truth; for he shall not speak of himself, but whatsoever he hears, that shall he speak John 16:13,14

Biblical Example:

- Samuel in I Sam. 3

My Example:

- When the Lord spoke to me, that I was going to go to Jerusalem

C. The Inward Eye

It is with the inward eye that we see visions, spontaneous images and pictures.

Biblical example:

Cornelius (Acts 10:1-3; 11:13,14)

St. Paul understood this when he prayed for the early Christians that the "eyes of the heart" be enlightened (Eph. 1:18). He is praying that their spiritual eyes will begin to see and recognize the things God has for them.

Three Types of Seeing Visions

- *Spiritual Vision*: see with the eyes of your spirit, not with your physical eyes. Paul in Acts 9
- *Trance*: Acts 10:9,10--Peter's physical senses were suspended--he was unaware of what was going on around him, did not know where he was at. While Peter thought on the vision.
- *Open Vision*: actually see with your physical eyes open ??Acts 8:26-29

Seeing Images in Dreams

Acts 16:9 come over into Macedonia and help us

Language Of The Holy Spirit Is Dream, Vision, Prophecy

When the Holy Spirit comes, *he will bring us* visions, prophecies, and...*dreams*. Some Christian teachers call these supernatural phenomena “the language of the Holy Spirit” (Cho, Nault).

'And it shall be in the last days,' God says, "That I will pour forth of My Spirit upon all mankind; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; even upon My bond slaves, both men and women, I will in those days pour forth of My Spirit and they shall prophesy' (Acts 2:16-18).

There are about 300 references to dreams and visions in the Bible.

If there is a prophet among you, I will make myself known to him in a vision, I shall speak with him in a dream" (Numbers 12:6).

Visions and dreams allow us to exceed the restrictions of a rational Christianity and enjoy direct communication from our Heavenly Father. Through them, the Holy Spirit reveals God's thoughts—things that God wants to freely give us. Incredible! We can *really* know the things that God has in mind for us!

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Prophecy Word of Knowledge, Gift of discernment

V. Listen To & Train This Spiritual Man On The Inside

We must become spirit conscious, if we want to understand what God is saying to our spirit. We have trained the body & educated the soul, but we have left the spirit of man undeveloped & untrained. Our spirit can be educated, built up in strength & trained. If trained, we would know inside with a “yes” or “no” just what to do in every area of life; even in minor things. The knowledge of the intellect and reason has taken the throne in our life. Our spirit, which should guide us is kept locked away in prison and not permitted to function.

We need to know the difference between our flesh, the outward man, or the inward man. If is the inward man, it is all right, because the inward man is born anew--old things have passed away; it has the nature and life of God in him. The Holy Spirit makes His home in my spirit. The inward man cannot sin. We are born again, not of corruptible, but of incorruptible, by the word of God which lives and abides forever. (I Peter 1:23) A desire to do wrong is not in our spirit!

A. God Speaks—And We Are Capable Of Hearing Him

God is capable of speaking personal truth into our minds and hearts. God is not dumb, He can speak.

- Learn to hear God's voice and receive His living and personal word

- Learn how to perceive reality through our spirit, not only the mind. Intuition is the voice of man's deep heart, his spirit.

Why Do We Not Recognize It?

The Burning Bush Syndrome

I wish that God would speak to me that way. I am waiting for Him to speak to me and to tell me what He wants me to do.

The sad truth, God does speak to us more than we realized. But many people are waiting for the burning bush. More importantly, we often obey the voice of God without even realizing that it was Him who spoke the idea to you.

Elijah On Mount Horeb: The Still Small Voice

When Elijah was on Mt Horeb, he learned that God was not in the wind, the earthquake, or the fire, but in the gentle whisper. The still small voice. (I Kings 8:9; 19:8)

The meaning of the name, Mt Horeb

Mount Horeb, called Horeb: desert or mountain of dried up ground, barren place, waste land, desert, a general name for whole mountain range of which Sinai was one of the summits, mountain of God. This is the place in which the Lord spoke to Elijah. It was when Elijah was able to lower his ego energy, get out of the way, that he recognized the voice of the Lord. He learned a valuable lesson about how the Lord speaks.

Be still and know Ps 46:10, 4:4

B. Two Places To Look—Heart & Mind

The leading of the Holy Spirit is already within us if we can find it and recognize it. The voice of God is in every one of us, if we can only learn to listen. We need to know the Holy Spirit within us, and learn to flow with Him. This alone can bring us into possession of what God has for us today. The Spirit brings us very close to God, and a deep inner relationship with Christ in us.

In the New Covenant, God will speak His personal truth directly into our minds and hearts.

I will put My laws upon their heart and upon their mind I will write them (Heb. 10:16).

You are a letter of Christ. . . written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone, but on tablets of hearts of flesh (II Cor. 3:3)

1. The Heart

According to the Bible, the heart contains God's *living words* (Heb. 10:16; Lu 2:19; Ps. 119:11, 37:31, 40:8; II Cor. 3:3). The heart contains God's plans, directions and desires for us (II Thes. 3:5; I Cor. 2:9; Acts 7:23; Ne 2:12; II Sa 7:3; I Ki 8:18; Ps. 37:4).

2. The Mind

God can speak clear thoughts into our mind, spontaneous thoughts.

- I will write my laws upon their minds. Hebrews 10:16

- I will put my laws into their minds. Hebrews 8:10

Examples

Maïke: a thought, "take out six pieces of chicken and cook them." But she reasoned the thought away, and an hour later she had two people arrive at her house during lunch time, and she wished she could have invited them to eat with them.

Nancy: she asked a friend, can you sing this song, to God be the glory. The woman was shocked, this was the song she was singing when a pastor said to her she could not sing in church any more. Nancy did not have it was any idea that it was God who gave her the thought.

Be willing to question, whose thoughts are those?
Our thoughts, thoughts of others, thoughts of Satan, thoughts from God.

Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and have not entered the heart of man, all that God has prepared for those who love Him. But (NAS margin) to us God revealed them through the spirit, for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God; for who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man, which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things freely given to us by God (I Cor. 3:10-12).
I Cor. 1:18-2:16.

Ministry Time

Welcome the Holy Spirit into your life.

Lord, Because I cannot live, have life, by bread alone, I must live by every word that comes out of your mouth. Open the eyes and ears of my heart that I might hear. Give me the boldness and courage to hear you and do what you tell me to do."

Goal to listen to Lord and do what He tells you...because I cannot live, have life, by bread alone, I must live by every word that comes out of mouth of God. How shall I know? Widen my imagination? Show me! God tells us but He also shows us.

Our Response

It is important to say to God, "Yes, Lord, I hear you" when you do recognize God's voice.