

## **Get Growing - Session 6 - "The Holy Spirit"**

- Good Evening, welcome to our 6th and final session of our Get Growing Series
- My consistent prayer has been that this series would greatly encourage and equip you for a life time of spiritual growth as a Christian
- Let's pray
- Let's again consider the wheel diagram that has been guiding our discussion on Spiritual growth and review
- Wheel - motion - spiritual growth is in constant motion
- Hub - Christ - Jesus is to be the center of your life, everything in life is to revolve around Him
- Rim - Obedience where the rubber meets the road in daily living
- The four spokes represent the 4 fundamental activities of Christian growth
- Two vertical - our interaction with God - prayer and the Word
- Two horizontal - our interaction with others - fellowship and witnessing
- So that's it for the details of the wheel diagram, we have spent time on each detail
- Now there's a very important detail that I want to add to this discussion of spiritual growth
- This detail will add great power to your spiritual growth, in fact it will make your wheel look like this!
- Let's burn some rubber with that wheel, let's turbo charge that wheel, let's set that wheel on fire, let's add great power to the process of spiritual growth
- What am I a speaking about? The Power of the Holy Spirit, the power of the Holy Spirit
- We are not to live the Christian life by our own power, we are not grow spiritually by our own power
- Yes we must cooperate, yes we must engage in the disciplines that we have been speaking about, there is human effort, but we also have the power of the Holy Spirit and we need to depend upon the Holy Spirit every step of the way

# I. Get Growing - Session 6 - The Holy Spirit

## A. Facts about the Holy Spirit

- The Promise of Jesus
  - ▶ Jesus made a wonderful promise to His disciples in the upper room

John 14:16–18 (NKJV)

16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. 18 I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

- ▶ So Jesus has been telling His disciples that He will be leaving, but don't worry, I will send you another Helper
- ▶ There are two Greek words translated another in english
- ▶ Heteros: another of a different kind
- ▶ Allos: another of the same kind
- ▶ Let's say you let somebody borrow your car, your brand new Mercedes
- ▶ They wreck it
- ▶ Don't worry I'll bring you another car, and they give you 1975 bright yellow Ford Pinto
- ▶ That's Heteros: another of a different kind
- ▶ But then what if they brought you back the exact brand new Mercedes that they crashed
- ▶ That's allos, another of the same kind
- ▶ The same kind, the same quality
- ▶ Allos is the word used Here
- ▶ The Holy Spirit is another Helper Just like Jesus, the same likeness of Jesus
- ▶ The Holy Spirit literally brings Jesus to you

- ▶ Jesus is basically saying of the Holy Spirit, “He will do in my absence what I would do if I were physically present with you.”
  - ▶ He will dwell with you and in you
  - ▶ The Holy Spirit will take up residence inside you, He will be a Helper to you
  - ▶ That Promise was fulfilled when the church was born on the day of Pentecost as recorded in Acts 2
  - ▶ The Holy Spirit rested upon the disciples, the church was born
- The Holy Spirit Resides in Christians
    - ▶ In the church age, the Holy Spirit dwells inside every single born again Christian
    - ▶ When you are born again, the Holy Spirit takes residence inside you

1 Corinthians 2:12 (NKJV)

12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

1 Corinthians 3:16 (NKJV)

16 Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

- ▶ That is an absolutely astounding truth, and sadly, many Christians are not even aware of that
- ▶ As Jesus walked with those disciples, so the Holy Spirit walks with us
- ▶ We have better access to Jesus Himself than people did when He was physically present on the earth
- ▶ The Holy Spirit resides in you, and He is your personal helper in living the Christian life
- ▶ In order to grow you need to be aware of Him

- ▶ You should be sensitive to Him every day, you should seek to hear His voice in your life every day
- ▶ You are to walk by the Spirit, be dependent upon the Spirit
- ▶ Let the Holy Spirit have all of you, Let Him do marvelous work in and through you

I have a glove here in my hand. The glove cannot do anything by itself, but when my hand is in it, the glove can do many things. True, it is not the glove, but my hand in the glove that acts. The Christian is a glove. It is the Holy Spirit in us, the hand, who does the work. We have to make room for the hand so that every finger in the glove is filled.

## B. Active in the four disciplines of Spiritual Growth

- Prayer
  - ▶ Now let's put up that wheel diagram again
  - ▶ The four disciplines of spiritual growth
  - ▶ The Holy Spirit is active in those four disciplines, He empowers you in those disciplines
  - ▶ He empowers our prayer lives
  - ▶ Listen to this wonderful verse in Romans chapter 8

Romans 8:26–27 (NKJV)

26 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

- ▶ The Holy Spirit helps us to pray, He empowers our personal prayer time
- ▶ Sometimes we don't have energy to pray, but we start, and He gives us energy
- ▶ He leads us to pray according to God's will
- ▶ He makes intercession for us

- ▶ In your quiet time as you pray, be listening for His voice, be sensitive to His leading
- ▶ We are told to pray without ceasing, that all day awareness of God's presence with us
- ▶ That daily conversation with the Spirit in you
- ▶ The Holy Spirit empowers our time of corporate prayer, when we gather with other Christians and pray together
- ▶ He leads the prayer meeting, He fills us afresh
- ▶ The story of Acts 4
- ▶ Peter and John taken before the religious leaders
- ▶ We will let you go but we command you not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus
- ▶ Prayer meeting

Acts 4:31 (NKJV)

31 And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

- ▶ He empowers, He lights up your prayer time
- The Word
  - ▶ Then we have the spiritual discipline of the Word, Reading our Bibles
  - ▶ The Holy Spirit helps us to understand the Word of God
  - ▶ In fact having the Holy Spirit inside us is the only way we can truly begin to understand the Word of God

1 Corinthians 2:13–14 (NKJV)

13 These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. 14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

“The Bible without the Holy Spirit is a sun-dial by moonlight” (D. L. Moody).

- ▶ The Bible is hard to understand for the natural man
- ▶ But to the one who is born again, indwell by the Holy Spirit, the Word can be understood
- ▶ Listen to this promise of Jesus concerning the Holy Spirit

John 14:26 (NKJV)

26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

- ▶ The Holy Spirit is a teacher, the Holy Spirit is your own personal tutor, He will help teach you the doctrines of Scripture
- ▶ Schools often talk about the teacher-student ratio, and the lower the better
- ▶ The Holy Spirit is your personal teacher, available to you at all times, one on one
- ▶ He teaches you Scripture, He helps you to rightly divide the Word of God
- ▶ You spend time with Him as you study the Bible and He will teach you
- ▶ He will help teach you how to live out scripture practically, in every day living
- ▶ Showing you how to live out scripture and obey the commandments of scripture
- ▶ GPS navigation on the phone has helped me out so much, because I am not good at directions
- ▶ The Holy Spirit is our spiritual GPS navigator through life
- ▶ The Holy Spirit will help you to discern that what is being taught is being taught correctly
- ▶ He gives discernment, red flags
- ▶ He will also help you to remember the Word of God as you go out day by day

- ▶ John 14:26 - bring to your remembrance
- Fellowship
  - ▶ Then we have the discipline of spiritual growth called fellowship
  - ▶ We gather with our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ, we assemble together
  - ▶ We love each other, we care for each other, we encourage one another, we motivate one another
  - ▶ Jesus told us to love one another as He has loved us, that's a tall task
  - ▶ The Holy Spirit certainly helps us to do that, empowers us to do that

Romans 5:5 (NKJV)

5 Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

1 John 4:12–13 (NKJV)

12 No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us. 13 By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.

- ▶ And then remember that fellowship is more than just gathering together, it's working together, it's cooperating together in getting the work of God done
- ▶ The Holy Spirit gives us our place in the work of the church
- ▶ He gives us a calling, He gives us spiritual gifts

1 Corinthians 12:4–7 (NKJV)

4 There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. 6 And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:

- ▶ The Holy Spirit has a place for you in the church, in the work of the Lord, a gifting for you
- ▶ He absolutely empowers us in fellowship
- Witnessing
  - ▶ And then again we have this 4th spoke called witnessing
  - ▶ The Holy Spirit is absolutely active in making us witnesses for Christ Jesus

#### Acts 1:8 (NKJV)

8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

- ▶ He will empower you to be an effective witness for Him
- ▶ The Power of the Holy Spirit at work in the lives of the Apostles
- ▶ Compare the Apostles in the gospel account, to the Apostles in the Book of Act
- ▶ What was the difference? The Power of the Holy Spirit
- ▶ Lifestyle transformation, changed lives
- ▶ He transforms your life and people take notice

#### Galatians 5:22–23 (NKJV)

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

- ▶ So you live a spirit changed life in front of others and people take notice
- ▶ And then remember we spoke about having to know how to share the gospel
- ▶ We should know the 4 major points of the gospel, be able to share our personal testimonies with others, lead others in the prayer of salvation
- ▶ We need to be prepared for that, the Lord will empower that



- ▶ He gives you the words to speak when you share

John 14:26 (NKJV)

26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

- ▶ It is absolutely amazing what the Spirit will give to you in that moment of need, truly supernatural
- ▶ RRR Bar in Las Cruces
- ▶ Remember - Repent - Return to the first works (Revelation 2:5)
- ▶ The Holy Spirit seeks to empower every part of your life as a Christian
- ▶ He is with you! He is in you!

Conclusion

- Ok let's close with a couple of exercises