

The Holy Spirit #9

INTRO: With this lesson, we'll wrap up our brief study of the Holy Spirit and the old year! It sure is good to be live from the Vineyard and the best of everything for you all in 2013! Allow the Holy Spirit to lead you and direct your steps in a very special way in the coming new year.

Last week we looked at the Holy Spirit's role in Christmas. This week I thought it might help to illustrate a few ways the Holy Spirit works in our lives as individuals.

I) Ministry of the Holy Spirit to Individuals

- A) The Word of God and The Spirit of God must agree! If we hear something and the Word & Spirit do not agree that is a sign to throw it out... it is not of God! The Conviction of the Holy Spirit will help you with this.
- B) The New Birth—**John 3:1-7 NKJV** *"There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him." Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'"*
- 1) The heart of the problem is the problem of the heart!
 - 2) Jesus said, "Do not marvel..."
 - 3) We MUST be born of the water and the spirit
 - (a) Water is the Word of God
 - (b) Spirit is the Spirit of God
 - 4) Remember that Word and Spirit must agree! Is there is disharmony we need to check with the Word and with the Spirit. The Word says to "try the spirit"—that means check it out with the Word. Verify that there is agreement or not.
 - 5) Why do we need to check the Word?
- C) **John 15:2-3 NKJV** *"Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you."*
- 1) Clean implies something that has been washed
 - 2) So we are *washed* by the Word
 - 3) The Word *prunes* in verse 2 (purgeth in KJV) is a form of cleaning by removing the unwanted parts
 - 4) The Word is Inside us when we are believers and filled with the Holy Spirit
 - 5) We are to study the Word (2 Tim 2:15)
 - (a) The Word we study makes us clean as we obey, study and put the Word to work
 - (b) We obtain spiritual power and authority in this way
 - (c) Weak in the Word...weak in the flesh and life!
 - 6) The same power and authority that raised Christ from death lives inside us! But it won't work if we do not learn to use it. We learn by the study of the Word!
- D) **John 14:16-17 NKJV** *"And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever-- 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."*
- 1) The Word is inside us
 - 2) The Holy Spirit is inside us!
 - 3) These two are in agreement within us!
 - 4) Being born of water is being washed with God's Word and having it inside you!
- E) **John 20:19-22 NKJV** *"Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were*

glad when they saw the Lord. So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

- 1) Note nothing is said about doors being opened—Jesus just came into the room!
- 2) In v. 21, *"Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you."* We are sent by the Father...and Jesus' reminds us of this
- 3) Remember in Matt 28:18 how Jesus was sent? With ALL POWER & AUTHORITY
- 4) Jesus left us with this same anointing of the Spirit...the power and authority we need to live in a sin-filled world
- 5) We are NOT just weak grubby Christians who are just trying to get by! God inside us makes us whatever we need to be whenever we need it!
- 6) Sadly most of us don't really listen and think about what Jesus said!

F) Mark 4:35-41 NKJV *On the same day, when evening had come, He said to them, "Let us cross over to the other side." Now when they had left the multitude, they took Him along in the boat as He was. And other little boats were also with Him. And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling. But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?" Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm. But He said to them, "Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?" And they feared exceedingly, and said to one another, "Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him!"*

- 1) This passage shows us that the Disciples did not hear and understand what Jesus said!
- 2) When the storm arose, they totally forgot what Jesus had told them
- 3) Most of the time, people don't need counseling...we just need to see what the Word of God says about the situation and DO WHAT THE WORD SAYS!
- 4) We also need to pay attention to what Jesus did not say!
 - (a) He did not say there would be no storms or challenge
 - (b) He did not give them fully detailed directions or times
- 5) Jesus is WITH US...The Holy Spirit is WITH US! Our ship won't sink! He will see us through!
- 6) We can safely navigate through the storms and challenges of life when we remember He is with us, the Word is in us and we are listening and obeying!

G) The Anointing of the Holy Spirit

- 1) Water baptism is outward expression of an inward work
- 2) The Holy Spirit is within us for personal development
- 3) The Holy Spirit upon us is an anointing for service
- 4) Our experience of salvation is accomplished through the Spirit and God's Word

Closing: God has given us the equipping we need to live a holy and purposeful life.