

Name: _____

Date: _____

Christian Leadership

How to influence the ideas, opinions and actions of others for Jesus Christ.

Lesson 6: Part Two

Lesson 6: Be Filled with the Holy Spirit (Day One) The Spirit's Anointing

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed,¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." NIV Luke 4:18-19

Read what Jesus said in Luke 4:18-19 and answer questions 1-2:

1. Why was the Spirit of the Lord on Jesus? Because He anointed Jesus to preach good news to the poor. _____
2. What do you think the *year of the Lord's favor* means? Time of grace _____

See below _____

Jesus was quoting Isaiah 61:1-2 when he spoke in Luke 4:18. He was the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy written about 700 years earlier. Jesus is saying that He was sent to announce, to make known that prisoners of sin are to be set free. Jesus would be looking for those who are poor in spirit, which are the meek, the humble and the repentant. Recall that many of the religious leaders and rulers were proud and arrogant and were unable to recognize Christ. Make sure that you are vigilant (watchful) in guarding your own heart against pride and arrogance so that you will always recognize Christ and His leadership in your life.

The year of the Lord's favor is not a calendar year but it is the proclamation of the Messianic age. It is an age or time of grace when everyone who places their trust in Christ will have their sins forgiven and their debt of rebellion paid in full.¹ It is an acceptable and favorable time indeed! A time to shout for joy!!

how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.
Acts 10:38

Read Acts 10:38 and answer questions 3-5:

¹ NIV Study Bible, 1995, p. 2000.

3. Who anointed Jesus? ___ **God** _____ Was Jesus anointed with oil? Yes No (Circle one)
4. God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy ___ **Spirit** _____ and ___ **power** _____
5. Jesus went around doing ___ **good** _____ and ___ **healing** _____ all who were under the power of the ___ **devil** _____ because ___ **God** _____ was ___ **with** _____ him.

The Aramaic and Hebrew word Messiah (Μεσσίας) and its Greek equivalent Christ (Χριστός) mean Anointed One. Jesus, our Model is the Anointed One. He is the One who was anointed to destroy Satan and his works (1 John 3:8, Colossians 9-15) and lead people into God's forever and glorious Kingdom (Colossians 1:13, Revelation 22:3-5).

Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us,²² set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.
2 Corinthians 1:21

Read 2 Corinthians 1:21 and answer questions 6-7:

6. Who anoints you for service? ___ **God** _____ Is oil necessary? Yes **No** (Circle one)
7. How do you know that you have the Holy Spirit in your heart? ___ **The scriptures tell us that God puts His Spirit in those who belong to Christ.** _____
8. As a follower of the Anointed One, how are you modeling His mission of doing good and healing those under the power of Satan? _____ **Personal Answer** _____
 ___ **Specific good works and sharing the resurrected Christ.** _____

God sets you apart for leadership. The confines (boundaries) of your leadership may be very different from others. Jesus' leadership role involved traveling around the country teaching, preaching, healing, and ultimately dying on the cross for our sins. There are just as many leadership options as there are talents, jobs and personal situations. For example, you may suffer a terrible accident or illness. Within the confines of this outward tragedy, God may use your situation in a dramatic way to help others know and call on the name of Jesus. Just by having a positive attitude and staying in a close relationship with God may give nonbelievers a reason to pause and consider Jesus.

A friend shared a story with me about a Christian volunteer and a journalist. Not only was the journalist an atheist, but he also believed that Christians were hypocrites (frauds). To his dismay, his editor asked him to write about the work that was being done with the homeless at a Christian shelter downtown. He really didn't want to write about Christians and he certainly didn't want to give them credit for anything positive.

The journalist decided to go down to the shelter one cold Saturday morning in disguise; he wanted to observe how things *really* worked. Right away he noticed a young man serving hot chocolate. The young man politely gave a cup to a shabbily dressed man who without any provocation (aggravation) threw the steaming hot chocolate in the young man's face and then threw the cup on the ground.

"Boy this is going to be good," thought the journalist. "I'll get some great photos of these charlatans (fakes, imposters) and show the city what they're really like." He grabbed for his camera but before he could even pull it out of his pocket, he stopped and just stared at what he saw next. The young man wiped the hot chocolate from his face, picked up the cup, filled it again, smiled and said politely, "Sir, I believe you dropped your hot chocolate."

This simple instance of self sacrifice and compassion gave the journalist a reason to pause. He decided to investigate further and get to know this Christian volunteer. In due time, he did indeed give his life to Christ. The moral of this story: Never underestimate your calling and how it affects the lives of others. This young man was leading by simply serving hot chocolate!

Although the structure or parameters of your role may be different, the goal of Christian leadership remains the same. We are to preach, tell, share, model and serve in all ways to bring people to God through Jesus for the glory of our Triune God. What a tremendous privilege and great honor! Nothing in life is more exciting, fulfilling and worthy!

Personal Application: Memorize 1 John 2:20

But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth.^{NIV} 1 John 2:20

Live this day with the recognition that you have an anointing from God and that you know the truth that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. It is the life-saving truth that must be shared.

Write down any way your day was different: _____ **Personal Answer** _____

Lesson 6: Be Filled with the Holy Spirit (Day Two) Baptism of the Holy Spirit (A)

"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.
^{NIV} Matthew 3:11

Read Matthew 3:11 and answer questions 1-2.

1. John the Baptist told his followers that he baptized with water for repentance but that Jesus will come and baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

2. What is the meaning and purpose of the word fire used in this verse? _____

_____ **Sanctify or make holy - see following for full meaning** _____

Fire is used in the Old Testament as one of the physical manifestations of God's presence (Genesis 15:17, Exodus 13:21-22). It was also used in Israel's worship to symbolically represent God with His people (Leviticus 6:12-13). God is holy and righteous. He does not dwell among sinners. Thus God's presence with Israel as **fire represented both judgment and purification.**²

The Bible tells us that Jesus baptizes with the Holy Spirit. The Greek word for baptize is baptizo (βαπτίζω). It has three specific definitions. **First**, it means to wash ceremonially for the purpose of purification. The priests were required to wash before offering sacrifices to God (Leviticus 16 :4, 24-25). After washing, the priest offered the sacrifice with the fat portion of the animal being burned with fire.

When someone is baptized with the Holy Spirit and fire he is not physically set aflame or burned. Fire is not to be taken literally (plainly) but symbolically. Baptizing *with the Holy Spirit and with fire* "means that Jesus had and has the ability to immerse (baptize) people into the presence of God so that they are aware of their sin and their need to be cleansed. To be baptized with the Holy Spirit and fire is to be convicted concerning sin and righteousness and judgment (John 16:8)."³

The **second** definition of baptism is to use water in a rite for the purpose of renewing, or establishing a relationship with God. It means to plunge, dip, and wash. This definition is associated with the ministry of John the Baptist.

A **third** meaning is to cause someone to have an extraordinary experience akin to an initiatory water-rite, to plunge, baptize.⁴ Some saints do have extraordinary experiences when they first place their trust in Jesus. Others who have been believers for a time describe extraordinary experiences with the Holy Spirit coming upon them in a remarkable way.

In a real sense all three meanings could relate to the statement that Jesus baptizes with the Holy Spirit. First the work of the Spirit is to sanctify (make holy). Second, believers talk or communicate with God through His Spirit. Third, the Spirit makes it possible to have extraordinary experiences with God.

3. Explain why you do or do not judge yourself or other Christians because of extraordinary experiences or lack thereof with Jesus and the Holy Spirit? _____

_____ **Personal Answer** _____

² Trent, Butler, Editor, Homan Bible Publishers, Nashville TN, 1991. pg. 152.

³ Ibid, pg. 152.

⁴ Frederick William Danker, based on Walter Bauer's A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and the Early Christian Literature, 3rd edition, University of Chicago Press, Chicago & London, 2000.

Certainly we are commanded not to judge anyone. We should be especially careful in judging a person by whether or not they have had an extraordinary experience with God. There are testimonies by great men and women of God in both camps. The truth is that an extraordinary experience, whether physically or emotionally, has absolutely no bearing on God's love for us and His working in our lives. As in all things, our focus needs to be on God Himself and not on our own feelings, experiences and circumstances.

There are two main doctrinal teachings on when a believer receives the gift of the Holy Spirit. One group says that you receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit when you trust Jesus as your Lord and Savior. The other group calls for a subsequent, separate filling they refer to as the "Baptism of the Holy Spirit." Those who believe in a separate filling acknowledge that trusting Jesus and the "Baptism of the Holy Spirit" may occur at the same time.

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,⁵ 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.^{NIV} Ephesians 1:13-14

Read Ephesians 1:13-14 and answer questions 4-6:

- 4. What is the word of truth? the gospel of salvation
- 5. Having believed in the gospel of Jesus Christ, you were marked in him with the Holy **Spirit**.
- 6. What does the Spirit guarantee believers? our inheritance

Anyone who truly places his or her trust in Jesus receives His Spirit. Any believer can attest to this truth. The evidence of the Spirit in our lives comes through repentance and a real desire to know and please God. Some change quickly and dramatically, others change more slowly and modestly. However, not all believers reveal miraculous or vivid manifestations of the Spirit. This is the crux of the dispute: in order to have the fullness and power of the Spirit one must have a separate filling known as the "Baptism of the Holy Spirit."

- 7. What do you believe about the "Baptism of the Holy Spirit" and why? _____
personal Answer

Personal Application: Prayerfully consider and answer the following questions:

⁵ Seals were important in the Hebrew culture. They gave identity and definition to the person who carried it. In many cases this instrument which was used to sign clay tablets was worn around the person's neck. In the same way, a person's name in the Old Testament gave identify and definition to his character and personality.

Have you ever looked down on anyone who seemed less “spiritual” than you? Why or Why not?

_____ **Personal Answer** _____

Have you ever looked up to anyone who seemed more “spiritual” than you? Why or Why not?

_____ **Personal Answer** _____

Is either of the above situations more wrong than another? Why or Why not?

_____ **Both are sins of judgment and not keeping eyes on Christ.** _____

How can Christian unity (1 Corinthians 12:13, Galatians 2:20) be enhanced between charismatic (supernatural gifting) and cessationalists (no supernatural gifting today)? What can you do?

___ **Need to stop judging others and rejoice at Christs exaltation even if different than our own. Remember not to discourage a weaker brother or sister. Love one another. Pray and ask the Spirit for unity. Instead of criticizing - pray.** _____

Lesson 6: Be Filled with the Holy Spirit (Day Three) Baptism of the Holy Spirit (B)

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.^{NIV} Acts 2:1-4

Read Acts 2:1-4 and answer questions 1-3:

1. When the day of Pentecost (Jewish Feast of Harvest) came, were all those who gathered together in one place believers in the Lord Jesus Christ? **Yes** No Maybe (Circle One)

2. What were the visible signs of the Spirit’s filling each one of the believers? **_Tongues of fire rested on each persons, and they began to speak in other tongues.** _____

3. Do you know of other groups who have had this exact experience? Yes No (Circle One)

Personal Answer

There are men and women who are used powerfully by God who adhere to one doctrinal side or the other. Those who believe that the fullness of the Holy Spirit is received at the time of salvation cite these scriptures and others: Romans 8:9, Acts 2:38, Ephesians 1:13-14, 1 Corinthians 2:14, 12:13, 2 Corinthians 1:21-22, 5:5, Acts 2:17.

Those who believe in a separate, subsequent “Baptism of the Holy Spirit” after trusting Jesus cite these scriptures and others: John 7:37-39, Acts 1:5, 2:1-4, 8:15-17, 6:3, 9:17, 11:15-17, 19:2-4. Both sides have explanations and reasons for their position. Pray and ask God to give you wisdom and clarification with any questions that you might have.

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. ^{NIV} 1 Corinthians 12:13

Read 1 Corinthians 12:13 and answer questions 4-6:

4. For we were baptized by one Spirit into one body.

5. We were all given one Spirit to drink

6. Why do you think this verse is so important in your ministry of leadership? _____

Unity and being “one” in the Spirit.

Leaders are to unify God's people in the Spirit.

The opening ceremony for the 2008 summer Olympics in China was phenomenal. For several events 2,008 individual Chinese people worked in amazing precision and harmony. The first event had 2,008 drummers on the field at individual, illuminated, drum stations. The huge band formed a large square in the Bird Nest stadium. At the end of their musical light show, they performed the count down for the opening of the games with their Tai Chi drums. The drummers did this by having a portion of the drums light up with the countdown numbers while a portion of the drums were darkened for the background. Grand fireworks were set off after the “one” second disappeared from the drums.

What can we learn from our Chinese friends? The drummers remind us that we are all equal in God’s eyes and we all have a part to play for the good of the Kingdom. None is better or more important than another. Jesus tells us that we are the light of the world, so **let us work together in perfect harmony and precision so that others will be amazed and turn their eyes toward heaven.** Plus the countdown should remind us that our time is short, perhaps we only have seconds left before our Master’s return. Let us get ready for really *grand* fireworks!

Before we leave the subject of the “Baptism of the Holy Spirit,” let us address one aspect that can be particularly divisive. For example, some who believe in a separate “Baptism of the Holy Spirit” pronounce that a believer must have the gift of tongues⁶ as evidence of this baptism.

⁶ The ability or phenomenon to utter words or sounds of a language unknown to the speaker, especially as an expression of religious ecstasy. Also called *glossolalia*, *speaking in tongues*. Free Dictionary by Farlex.

They cite Acts 2:1-6 and their own experience. However, in Acts 2 the language was a real language that listeners could understand.

It seems that in the last thirty years there has been a movement to refer to speaking in tongues outside of a public gathering as a “private prayer language” or “prayer language.” It is then used to communicate with God in private. The “prayer language” or “heavenly language” was defined as such to meet Paul’s requirements of having an interpreter present whenever one speaks in tongues (1 Corinthians 14:27-28). Even so, some pastors do allow their congregations to use their “prayer language” during worship even if there is no one present to interpret what they are saying or praying.

Now some who do not believe in a separate “Baptism of the Spirit” have just the opposite view. Some of these religious leaders ban speaking in tongues altogether whether publicly or privately. A ban against speaking in tongues is not scriptural and quenches the Spirit.

If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in the church and speak to himself and God.^{NIV} 1 Corinthians 14:28

Read 1 Corinthians 14:28 and answer questions 7-8:

7. What restriction does Paul place on believer’s speaking in tongues in a church gathering?

Must have an interpreter to speak in tongues in church.

8. Does Paul place any restrictions for speaking in tongues in private? Yes **No** (circle One)

Paul makes it clear in 1 Corinthians 14 that speaking in tongues is just one kind of spiritual gift (day 5). Gifts are given to build up the body of Christ. No one needs them all because no one is the whole body; we are all just a part of the body. Thus not all believers who have been baptized into the Spirit will speak in tongues (Romans 8:5-8, 12:5-8, 1 Corinthians 1:7).

Charles G. Finney played an important role in the development of American Pentecostalism and yet did not speak in tongues. “One writer claimed during the year 1857-58 over a hundred thousand persons were led to Christ as the direct or indirect result of Finney’s labors while five hundred thousand persons professed conversion to Christ in the great revival which began in his meetings...It was found by actual research that over eighty-five in every hundred persons professing conversion to Christ in Finney’s meetings remained true to God.”⁷

Now it is a blessing to speak in tongues and if you desire this gift, you should ask for it. However, biblically this is not a requirement to confirm that you are baptized in or with the Holy Spirit. Many different denominations exist because Christians do not give each other enough freedom to serve Christ uniquely. If you speak in tongues, do so humbly. If you don’t speak in tongues, accept those who do humbly. There are mighty men and women of God who speak in tongues and those who do not. God hates pride and arrogance in any form.

⁷John L. Gresham, Jr, *Charles G. Finney’s Doctrine of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit*, Hendrickson Publishers, Peabody, MA, 1987, pg. 41.

Do not try to coerce or manipulate others into thinking that they must have the same experience with God that you have experienced or to exercise the same gifts and abilities that you do. Think of the unique experiences and gifts of the men and women in the Bible. Moses met God in a burning bush and led the Israelites out of Egypt with signs and miracles. Paul met Jesus in blinding light on the road to Damascus and was used to bring the gospel to the Gentiles. Mary was visited by the angel Gabriel before the Holy Spirit came upon her and she gave birth to God's Son to save us all. They met and served God on His terms. Can we do any differently?

All relationship, experience and service begin with Christ. **If anyone preaches a different gospel than Jesus Christ, his deity and humanity, His birth, life, death and resurrection, than as a Christian leader, you must stand up for the truth.** But we must be careful to listen, watch and not condemn the Spirit's work. For example, Finney believed in not one "Baptism of the Spirit" but in subsequent and fresh baptisms of the Spirit. He spoke and wrote vividly of these powerful experiences.⁸ Who would have cared to argue with this man of God *and* the fruit of his labors? But then again who would demand that his experiences were necessary for following Christ?

In addressing differences, please consider: *Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. And he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.*^{NIV} Romans 14:4. **Pray:** O Lord, make me and all believers stand firm in You. Amen.

Personal Application: Ask God to speak to you while you meditate on the following verses:

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever--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.^{NIV} John 14:16-17

but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. 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.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. 1 Corinthians 2:10-12

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. 2 Corinthians 3:17-18

What did God reveal to you while you were reflecting on these Scriptures? _____

_____ **Personal Answer** _____

Lesson 6: Be Filled with the Holy Spirit (Day Four) The Spirit's Filling

⁸ Ibid

"You and your sons are not to drink wine or other fermented drink whenever you go into the Tent of Meeting, or you will die. This is a lasting ordinance for the generations to come.¹⁰ You must distinguish between the holy and the common, between the unclean and the clean,¹¹ and you must teach the Israelites all the decrees the LORD has given them through Moses."
NIV Leviticus 10:9-11

Read Leviticus 10:9-11 and answer question 1-3:

1. What did the Lord tell Aaron, the high priest about drinking wine? _____
__Not to drink it whenever you go in to the tent of meeting or you will die.__
2. What reason did God give Aaron (and his sons) for not drinking wine near His presence in the Tent of Meeting? __Must distinguish between the holy & common; clean and unclean.__
3. God expected the priests to know the difference between holy living and unholy living so that they could do what? __Teach the Israelites the Lord's decrees.__

Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.¹⁸ Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. Ephesians 5:17-18

Read Ephesians 5:17-21 and answer questions 4-6:

4. In Paul's Epistle (letter) to the Ephesians he commands believers in verse 17, do not be __foolish__, but __understand__ what the Lord's __will__ is.
5. The Lord's will is that believers "be __filled__ with the Holy __Spirit__."
6. What do you think Leviticus 10:9-11 and Ephesians 5:17-18 have in common?

Like the Old Testament priests, we are to serve God in holiness in His presence.

There is a principle at work that Paul is bringing to the first century church. Just like the old covenant priests were to serve God in holiness so too the new covenant priests are to serve God in holiness. We are the new covenant priests serving God in His presence (1 Peter 2:5, 9). Instead of the Tent of Meeting, we serve God continually in His presence through the Holy Spirit. Although wine is used in a real sense of getting drunk, it is also used as a symbol for other common or sinful living.

When you fill yourself with wine, the alcohol saturates (soaks) your mind. It makes the flesh weak and susceptible to unholy living. Instead Paul wants believers to be filled with the Holy

Spirit so that He will saturate your mind. The Holy Spirit gives you strength and wisdom for holy living.

In Greek, the verb pleroo (πληρόω) to fill ⁹ is a present, imperative, passive verb. The present indicates a continuous action. The imperative means this verb is a command, order or obligation. Passive means that those being filled are to receive or be subjected by the action of the verb.

Thus, Paul is commanding the church to allow themselves to be continually filled with the Spirit. The passive makes it clear that we do not control the Spirit of God but we cooperate in our filling. The Spirit of God seeks a holy temple (your body) to reside. Therefore as a Christian you should be responsible in choosing holy activities versus sinful ones.

7. How can you cooperate with God so that Christ's Holy Spirit pervades your whole heart, soul and mind? Choose holy living; disengage from the common.

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.* ²¹ *Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.* Ephesians 5:19-21

8. Read Ephesians 5:19-21. After commanding the believers at Ephesus to be filled with the Spirit, what four activities does Paul say they are to be engaged in continuously?

1. Speak to one another with psalms, hymns, & spiritual songs.
2. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord.
3. Always giving thanks to God the father for everything in Christ Jesus.
4. Submit to one another out of reverence to Christ.

In its first century context the readers of Paul's letter would have recognized that the days were evil. The pagan culture surrounded the Christian church. Paul wanted them to understand that too much wine or any kind of excessive living in their materialistic society would be wrong and out of step with their new life in Christ. Paul was calling them to be different and set apart.

When the early Christians gave up their life of excess and sin, they were to fill it with something else. If they gave up the sin and didn't fill their life with something else, they would be tempted to return to their old sinful ways. Paul told them to allow themselves to be filled with the Spirit. They should choose attitudes and actions that would cooperate with the Spirit and His mighty work.

When you ask God to fill you with the Holy Spirit, you cooperate with God by filling your life and days with activities that are pleasing to Him. First, you will speak to encourage others. This is most necessary in leadership. Who will encourage if not you? Perhaps you will share

⁹ BibleWorks 6.

verses from the Holy Scriptures as a way to build up others. You also might repeat the words of hymns and spiritual songs. In other words, Paul is giving you a new language to speak that involves honoring Christ and not taking part in the language and idolatry of the society in which you now live. You are changing from a common person into a holy one.

A second way that you cooperate with God is by singing and making music in your heart to Him. You can either create your own songs and music in your mind or sing the ones that you have heard in church. Praying or speaking Scripture to the Lord is also sweet and acceptable music to Him.

A third activity connected with being filled with the Spirit is giving thanks for everything in the name of Jesus Christ to God the Father. God is Sovereign and in control of all things. It should be easy to thank God for the things that we deem (judge) good. Nevertheless, please recall when Jesus healed ten men with leprosy, only one returned to give thanks and praise (Luke 17:17-18). Let us not take God's goodness for granted but give Him thanks.

Do you thank Jesus every day that He died on the cross for your sins? If so, you are thanking God for a painful, excruciating and seemingly evil circumstance. We are not happy that Jesus had to suffer and neither is God. However, this was God's plan so that all men might be saved. God could have stopped the crucifixion; indeed Jesus Himself could have stopped it. But thanks be to God, because of Jesus' sacrifice, everyone has the opportunity to know God and enjoy a blissful, eternal life with Him.

We live in a fallen world. God does not cause evil, Satan does. God could stop all evil and indeed that day will come. Until then, no matter how tragic, painful or devastating something may seem in our lives, we can be assured that God will work it out for our good so that we may be conformed into the likeness of Jesus (Romans 8:28-30). Remember also that God is incomprehensible and His ways are past our understanding (Job 38:4).

Fourthly, you submit to one another in fear and reverence for Christ. This means that you yield or surrender your rights or desires in various situations. This is done to honor Christ and it pleases Him immensely. Think of His perfect, selfless, path to the cross and follow Him. **Jesus gave up His rights for everyone. He is the perfect model for leadership.**

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

9. Paul commands Christians: do not put out the Spirit's fire

The Greek verb sbennumi (σβέννυμι) means to extinguish, put out, quench and restrain. This is a present active command which means that we must not restrain or extinguish the Spirit's holy activity in our lives. The reverse is also true, i.e., we can sinfully put out the Spirit's fire.

10.. If you were in the woods and decided to put out your camp fire, what would you do?

Throw dirt or water on it.

You may have thrown a bucket of cold water on it or perhaps dirt. Either way you have distinguished the presence, light, warmth and power of the fire. In the same way when we are cold toward God or bring the dirt of sinful living into His presence, we quench the Spirit.

Fire is used symbolically in a variety of ways in the Bible. In this verse it represents God's presence and all that His holy presence means: conviction of sin, holy living, and victory over the enemies of darkness, power and zeal. Consider the magnitude of the gift of the Holy Spirit. Consider the loss to you and those you lead if you grieve the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:30)

Personal Application: *Memorize the four activities (Ephesians 5:19-21) of a Spirit filled Christian and live by them each day.*

Please write out any doubts that you have regarding the Holy Spirit living in you?

_____ **Personal Answer** _____

___ **Letter Minister: please respond to student's doubts referring to scripture.** _____

Lesson 6: Be Filled with the Holy Spirit (Day Five) The Spirit's Gifts

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.²⁸ And now, dear children, continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming.²⁹ If you know that he is righteous, you know that everyone who does what is right has been born of him.
1 John 2:27

Read 1 John 2:27 and answer questions 1-3. The apostle John is writing to believers around 85 AD to combat heresy and false teaching. Note that in this verse the apostle is not saying that there is no need of human teachers because elsewhere in Scripture they are highly valued. John is saying that all believers need to listen to the Holy Spirit to discern truth for themselves. This is another example of the importance of the context of a passage and knowing the whole counsel of God.

1. How do you know you are anointed? **Scripture; anointing remains in faithful Christian**

2. How are you assured of knowing the truth? ___ **Scripture; continuing in Christ.** _____

3. If you are reading and studying the Bible and you don't understand the meaning of a

particular passage what should you do? ___ **Pray. Ask the Spirit of wisdom & of truth to guide you.** _____

The good Spirit wants you to be an effective and holy leader. He desires you to be like Christ and serve our holy Father (Romans 8). He wants you to be assured of His presence and help. He does not desire us to live in fear and trepidation (anxious, nervous). However, He does want us to live in the holy fear of the Lord (Deuteronomy 6:2, 13).

The Spirit of God is the good Revealer. He uncovers truth for us. He gives us wisdom by making the things of God known to us. He takes the spiritually blind and allows them to see that which was hidden. We cannot have revelation with out the good Revealer. For what does the noun revelation mean but to have something made known that had previously been concealed (secret, hidden). He is the good Revealer of our Lord Jesus Christ!!

You and I are given the Holy Spirit for the purpose of knowing, loving, worshiping and obeying God. The Holy Spirit resides within us to also help others know, love, worship and obey God. The Holy Spirit manifests (makes known, gives signs, reveals) Himself through all kinds of Christian personalities, skills and abilities (Exodus 31:3). How the Spirit manifests Himself through a particular Christian is called a spiritual gift. It is a gift of grace. The Christian has not worked for the gift nor does he merit it. God favors the Christ follower out of His goodness and mercy.

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.

1 Corinthians 12:4-7

Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 and answer questions 4-6:

4. What do all the different kinds of gifts have in common? Same Spirit, God, Lord.
5. The manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.
6. What do you think the common good refers to? (1 Peter 4: 7-11, Matthew 22:36-40)

See below

The only good, common or otherwise, is being in a loving and reverential relationship with God serving and obeying Him in joyful submission. There is no good outside of God (Mark 10:18).

Thus, in everything we do for ourselves and others must have the purpose of either beginning or furthering this relationship with God. We lead in “good works” to put the spotlight on the Holy One and not ourselves. Leadership is not for our glory but for the King of glory.

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.^{NIV} 1 Corinthians 12:8-11

Read 1 Corinthians 12:8-11 and answer questions 7-9:

7. List the 9 gifts of the Spirit that are mentioned in this passage: 1. See Above
2. _____ 3. _____
4. _____ 5. _____
6. _____ 7. _____
8. _____ 9. _____
8. How are these gifts given to you? As the Spirit determines
9. What would you say to a Christian who envies another's gift from the Spirit? God has a good plan and a good gift for your life. Hidden gifts may be used just as effectively as public gifts. God exalts and He brings down.

Envyng another's gift is really a matter of pride. A person who is jealous of another usually desires the attention that person is getting from the use of his or her gift such as speakers or healers. It's not the humble workers with the gift of mercy ministering to the lepers or the mentally handicapped that stir up resentment in others. But it is through these quiet workers that we contemplate God's grace in their lives and their great contribution to the Kingdom.

Be careful. Let us not blame the person with a "public" gift such as preaching for our own jealousy. They are working hard to use their gifts just as we are. God is not impressed with anyone as He alone is the source of all gifts. Therefore let us remember that God has a good and perfect plan for us and those we are leading. We trust Him and look forward to a heavenly reward for our faithfulness.

*Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function,⁵ so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.⁶ 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.* ^{NIV} Romans 12:4-8

Read Romans 12:4-8 and answer questions 10-11:

10. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us.
11. List the 7 gifts of the Spirit that are mentioned in this passage: 1. See above
2. _____ 3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

*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 up¹³ 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.*

^{NIV} Ephesians 4:11-13

Read Ephesians 4:11-13 and answer questions 12-13:

12. List the 5 gifts of the Spirit that are mentioned in this passage: 1. See above

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

13. These gifts and the others in preceding passages were given to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until 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.

Personal Application:

Ask God to reveal your gift(s) of the Spirit. Pray that you would humbly and effectively use your gift to prepare His people for works of service, so that you and they may become mature attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

(Note: Be patient and trust God. Know that God will answer your prayer in His timing.)

Next - Lesson 7: The Name

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