

ROM 217 - Under His Influence PT 3 - Luk 11:5-13

This is our **Third Msg** about
Living Under the Influence of the Holy Spirit in our lives

REMIND - Resources:

Lloyd Pulley's book - Under his Influence - **Info Table**
12-Part CD Series - & the 2 Part CD Msg - **W-B-M**

Three msg's ago - we '**Paused**' in our study of **Romans**

Because that's when Paul introduced the POWER
of Living Under the Influence of the Holy Spirit (**Rom 8:1-13**)

& so now - this is **our 3rd msg** - looking more **closely**
at **the POWER** of the Holy Spirit in our lives

We've said - in this "Mini Series" that:

The Holy Spirit **Empowers** us to live the Christian life
The Holy Spirit **Sanctifies** us (sets us apart) for God
The Holy Spirit **Transforms** us - from the inside out

& **we've said** over & over again

that it is an **EVER-INCREASING** Yielding "**By Faith**"
that causes us to live Increasingly Under His Influence

We "**Receive**" the Holy Spirit (in us)
the moment we're Born-Again

But it's **as we Increase** our **Yielding** to the Holy Spirit
that our **life actually begins** to be Radically Transformed

We've described our Christian Life - as a **Jet Airplane**

& **the Holy Spirit** is that huge **Jet Engine**
attached to the plane

But we made it clear - **the only** way that Airplane
can ever **overcome** the **power of Gravity**

Is for the **Co-Pilot** (you) to actually **'FIRE-UP'** that Engine
& **push** that throttle forward

THAT - is the **Ever-Increasing Influence**
the **Holy Spirit** must have on our lives

& as we **Yield** more & more
to the Jet Engine power of the **Holy Spirit**

We find our lives more & more
soaring to new heights with God

We can **overcome the Gravity**
of **this World** & of **our Flesh**

& **we can be flying** up there
doing **loops** & **barrel roles** with the Lord

Now - **Lst wk** I said that **today** - we would **try to look** at
the practical part of the **HOW**

The **Practical Steps** of - **How** do we go about
Living Under the Ever-increasing Influence of the **Holy Spirit**

So - Let's Pray, & we'll do just that

So - **HOW ?**

HOW do we begin to be Increasingly Yielded
to the Power of the Holy Spirit in our Lives

HOW - do we begin to Walk More & More "Under His Influence"

Remember - Living Under the Influence of the Holy Spirit
is done **BY FAITH** - Just like salvation

So - there is **NO**
3-step, turn around, jump up, fall down **RECIPE**

HOWEVER - there ARE **Guidelines** in the Bible
& there are **Promises** from God about the Holy Spirit in our lives

& **if we will** have **FAITH** in God's Promises -
& if we will **FOLLOW** His guidelines

Then we **WILL** experience
an Ever-Increasing Influence of the Holy Spirit in our lives

We **WILL** be able to **Walk** more & more - Under His Influence

Does that sound **FAIR** ?

OK - The **FIRST, FOREMOST, & FOREVER** Guideline
we looked at last week

That is - - - COME TO JESUS !

That will **always** be the Over-riding, All-Encompassing **Guideline**

But the Bible **does** give us a **few additional guidelines** to **go along** with that one

The #1 Guideline = Come to Jesus

#2 Guideline = ASK - BE Asking - & KEEP Asking

There's a **wonderful picture** of this in **Luk CH 11** (turn there) which is a very **well known** text

But what's **really amazing** about it is - This text **'Leads Up'** to a **Promise** about **Receiving the Holy Spirit**

At **the beginning** of the Ch - **Jesus** is teaching about **Prayer** (*the parallel vs to the Lord's Prayer in Mat Ch 6*)

& then **Luk 11:5** starts like this - **in the NLT**

Luk 11:5-7 - NLT

5 Then, teaching them more about prayer, he used this story:

“Suppose you went to a friend’s house at midnight, wanting to borrow three loaves of bread. You say to him,

6 ‘A friend of mine has just arrived for a visit, and I have nothing for him to eat.’

7 And suppose he calls out from his bedroom, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is locked for the night, and my family and I are all in bed. I can’t help you.’

Cont in Luk 11:8-10 - NLT → →

Luk 11:8-10 - NLT

8 But I tell you this—though he won't do it for friendship's sake, if you keep knocking long enough, he will get up and give you whatever you need because of your shameless persistence.

9 "And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you.

10 For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.

You may be used to hearing these verses in **NKJ** (& ESV)
says - ASK, SEEK, KNOCK

But the Parable is about **PERSISTENCE** in asking

& in the GK - this is the "**Present**" Verb Tense - **Which Means**;
KEEP ON Asking - **KEEP ON** Seeking - **KEEP ON** Knocking

This Teaching is about **Persistence**
in Asking, Seeking & Knocking

& then **Jesus continues** this same thought in **V.11**

Luk 11:11-13 - NLT

11 "You fathers—if your children ask for a fish, do you give them a snake instead?

12 Or if they ask for an egg, do you give them a scorpion? Of course not!

13 So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him." [present tense = those asking]

. . .how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ARE ASKING him."

These Vs's are about God **meeting** the **greatest need** you have
in order **to live** an **Abundant & Victorious** Life

They're about you asking God
for the **greatest Gift** he could Give you (after salvation)

If we really **knew**
what we **needed** most for our **Christian Life**

if we really **knew**
how **All-Encompassing** the **Gift of the Holy Spirit** is

We would follow this Parable of Jesus **to the "T"**
& we would be **ALWAYS** Asking God for the **GIFT** of the Holy Spirit

I promise you - I do my best to ask God
to **fill me** with His Holy Spirit **every single morning**
& **numerous times** thru-out every day

& **most often** when I pray for **someone else** - my **prayer** focuses on
asking God to **fill that person** with the Holy Spirit

often **above**, or even **instead of**
what they **actually ask me** to pray for

& **my** number one prayer for my **Wife & Children**
is that God would **Fill them** with the Holy Spirit

& **my** number one prayer for **this Church**
is that God would **Fill us** with His Holy Spirit

Because if we are Filled to Overflowing
with the Living Water of God's Holy Spirit

Then **Everything else** God calls us to do
we will be able to do - in His Own Strength that's in us

AMEN ? - So ASK, BE Asking, KEEP Asking

There are other Scriptures - that go along with this
"Always Asking" for the Filling of the Holy Spirit

in LUK 18 (turn there) some parents brought their children
to Jesus - for Him to bless them

& when the disciples saw it they rebuked the parents -
But then we read in (again from the NLT);

(turn) **LUK 18:16-17 - NLT**

***16 Then Jesus called for the children and said to the disciples,
"Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom
of God belongs to those who are like these children.***

***17 I tell you the truth, anyone who doesn't receive the Kingdom of
God like a child will never enter it."***

Children have such great Simple FAITH

tell them the moon is made of Cheese - they say - UH-HUH
tell them the Cow Jumped over the moon - they say - WOW
tell them there's a MAN in the MOON - & they'll see that man
every time they look up - for the rest of their lives

We LOVE the simple Faith of our Children

& here - Jesus says - The Kingdom of God belongs
to those who are like these children

Those who will simply Believe God - *because they trust Him*

You & I **CAN NOT** Reason Out - or Grasp the Logic -
of the Person of the Holy Spirit

Either we Receive Him - & Yield to Him with Simple Faith
Or we try to live the Christian Life without Him

HEB 11:6 furthers this thought (in adult style); (turn there)

(turn) Heb 11:6 - ESV

6 And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

For you & I - to Draw Near to God

We must Believe that He IS - & He rewards those who seek Him

That is Simple - Sincere - Believing FAITH

There's just one other guideline
that's important we understand,

Sin separates us from God

When a Christian is habitually Choosing SIN over God

they are Grieving the Holy Spirit

& they are Certainly NOT Living Under His Influence

So when a Christian **chooses** to make **SIN** their Master

They certainly **can't expect** to have **Rivers of Living Water**
Flowing from their lives

Instead they **need to expect** to have
the **consequences** of their **SIN** - Flowing from their lives

(turn) **ISA 59:1-2 - ESV** (middle of your Bible)

1 Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it cannot hear;

2 but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.

& when **David** finally **confessed** his sin - in **PSA 51**;

first in PSA 51:4 he prays to God - ESV

4 Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, . . .

& then - in V's. 10 & 11 he prays - ESV

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

11 Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

King David knew - His Conscious **CHOICE** to **continue in Sin** -
Separated Him from God's **Presence** - & God's **Spirit**

& **if it was true** for King David - it is **certainly true** for us

So - Here Are The Guidelines;

Come to Jesus

Ask - Be Asking - Always Keep Asking for the Holy Spirit

Come in Sincere Faith - Believing God will Fill you

Confess & Repent of All Known SIN

& we **really ARE** heading to the **PRACTICAL STEPS**
of **HOW** to be Constantly Filled w/ the Holy Spirit

But - **Before** we **get there**

I'd like to quickly review **THE EVIDENCE** that I believe **REVEALS**
when **someone IS FILLED** with the Holy Spirit

The real evidence of being filled with the Spirit is;

not a heightened emotional state

not a certain utterance from your mouth

not a certain response in your body

The **real evidence** of you being filled with the Holy Spirit
is **REVEALED** in your **DAILY LIFE**

The **TRUE EVIDENCE** is "Birthed"
from the **Fruit of the Spirit** found in **GAL CH 5** (turn there)

& many would **say** that the **FRUIT of the spirit IS** the **Real Evidence**
but **I'm going to** just Summarize it today

But we need to **Especially Notice** - the Fruit of the Spirit
are **all things** displayed - in your **Day-to-Day life**

(turn) **Gal 5:22-23 - ESV** → →

(turn) **Gal 5:22-23 - ESV**

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control . . .

This is **the FRUIT** - that the Holy Spirit **bears**
When He is **Empowering** & **Influencing** your Life

But I'd just like to **Summarize** **THE OUTCOME**
of the **Fruit of the Holy Spirit** in our lives

There are a **DOZEN ways**
the **Fruit of the Spirit** can **be seen** in our lives

But I think The **TRUE Evidence** of the Holy Spirit
can be **Summarized** simply like this;

The person Filled with the Spirit - will be
GLORIFYING God - & **MINISTERING** to others

The #1 Evidence of being Filled with the Spirit
is **Glorifying God** in your life

What does THAT mean?

The word Translated GLORIFY means:
***To cause the dignity & worth of a person
to become manifest [seen] and acknowledged***

How can I cause God's **Dignity** & **Worth**
to be **SEEN** & **ACKNOWLEDGED**

the #1 way for people to SEE & ACKNOWLEDGE God's Worth
is by them seeing YOUR Transformed life

The **wonderful miracle** of the Christian life
is that we Glorify God by allowing HIM to Change OUR lives

So **when people** say to you - MAN, YOU are a **different person**
You are **NOT the same** person I used to know

All you have to do is say ***"it's because of JESUS CHRIST"***

& **BAAM** - God is Glorified - You've just **Glorified God** - BY your Life

We let Him Transform Us - - & then Our lives Glorify Him

I believe **THAT** is the **# 1 EVIDENCE**
of us being **Under the Influence** of the Holy Spirit (*Glorifying God*)

The **# 2 Evidence** - of the **Holy Spirit** in a Person's Life
is that they will be **Ministering to others**

This term "**Minister to Others**" is one that **we struggle** to define
even here - to our leadership

What does it mean to "**Minister to Others**" ?

The word **Minister** means - ***To Serve or Attend to***

To MINISTER means;

To **SERVE** another

To **ATTEND TO** the needs of another

But **watch** this . . .

In Strong's GK Dict - for **Diakoneo** (*DeeA-Ka-Nay-O*) (Minister)
After the formal definitions - **it simply says** - ***To act as a Christian***

Now **THAT** is a great definition -

The word **Minister** means - ***To act as a Christian***

It means to **Serve the Needs** of Someone else

To **Attend to the Concerns** of another person

instead of Serving your own needs - **Serve** someone else's

instead of Attending to your own concerns - **Attend** to someone else's

Now Truly **THAT** is being filled with the Holy Spirit

& Truly **THAT** - is Rivers of Living Water flowing from your life

Again - we could do an **ENTIRE SERIES**

on **the Evidence** of the Holy Spirit in our lives

But **in SUMMARY** - When you see your life

GLORIFYING God - & **MINISTERING** to others - **That's Evidence**

OK - So Now;

we've got the **Guidelines** - - (**Guidelines & Evidence on VIDEO**)

we've got the **Evidence**

But **FINALLY** - I've promised some **Practical Steps**

for you to **Grow** in your **YIELDING** to the Holy Spirit

But **PLEASE Remember** - **Everything** about your life with Christ

(*incl'd'g the Power of his Spirit*) - is **RELATIONAL**

So - I'm **going to give you 3 Practical Steps**

But remember - Your Life with the Lord
& your Yielding to the Power of the **Holy Spirit**

Are **RELATIONAL** - **NOT** Mechanical

So - **with that** understanding
let me give you **THREE** practical 'relationship' guidelines

1) Constant Communion in Prayer

Talking to Him - Crying Out to Him - in Long Conversations
Walks on the Beach (or Treadmill), with just **you** & **Jesus**

Always Asking Him to pour out His Holy Spirit upon you
as you develop this **intimate communion** with Him in prayer

The **number ONE** Relationship Guideline
is **Constant Communion** with the Lord

Not just reading your **Laundry List** of "WANTS"
But Intimate, Relational, Communion

& during this Constant Communion,
always **BE Asking** for the Gift of the Holy Spirit

2) Consume His Love Letter to you

Read **God's Word** like a Love Letter to you
& read it **in a version** you can really understand

Read the NLT - & as long as you're not doing Bible study,
you can **even read** the Paraphrase called "**The Message**"

BUT here's **the important part** about reading God's Word

I really suggest that you **ASK** a **Mentor**, or **Ministry Leader**
WHERE to **READ** in God's Word

Ask us what **book** would **address** what you're **going thru** right now

Where has God written to you
about exactly what **you're going thru** right now

& then - **Read the Word** slowly - **re-reading** verses
& **Crying out** to God as you read

Read **all alone** - Read - **Re-read** - & **cry out** to God
pour your heart out to Him as you **carefully** read His Word

SLOWLY Meditate on God's Word
& He **WILL** **speak to you** thru it

1) Constant Communion in Prayer

2) Consume His Love Letter to you

3) Practice Obedience

We can't ask God to **give us the Power** to change
then never take a **step** toward changing

That's like **Never** Flipping **the Switch** on the Jet Engine

If you are Asking to be **Under the Influence**
of the **Power of the Holy Spirit** in your life - **then** . . .

START TO LIVE LIKE IT - take **a step** in Obedience

Ask God to give you the power to **take that step** - then . . .
TAKE THE STEP

God **DID NOT** part the **red sea** until Israel had marched right up to it
& **Moses** had placed his Staff into the water

The **Jordan River** **DID NOT** part until the **FEET** of the priests
were **actually IN** the water

The Miracle of Living under the Influence of the **Holy Spirit**

is that **HE IS THERE**, He's living in you
ready to give you ALL the POWER you need

but the Trigger, I promise you, **is Obedience**

The **very moment** you Obey Him,
He gives you the Power to Obey Him

The Flood of Power, **is Triggered** by your Obedience in Faith

Let's review the Practical Steps → →

1) Be in Constant Communion with God

Asking Him Always & Continually

to **fill you** to over-flowing with His Holy Spirit

2) Consume God's Love Letter to you

Use a **Readable version** - & **get** some **counsel** on **WHERE** to read

then **pour over** God's Word - Communing with Him

asking Him to **fill you** with his Spirit as you read

& **read slowly** - re-reading passages - **listening for Him** to speak

& **Communing with Him** thru His Word

3) Practice Obedience

Obey to the **extent** that you **already know** - then

take the **NEXT STEP** of Obedience

leaning on God in Faith, **Trusting** that He will

part that Obstacle the moment you step into it

Take that Step of **Obedience**, Under His Influence

& as **you do**, I promise you **on the Authority** of God's Word

Rivers of Living Water will begin

to **POUR out** of your innermost being

We've been given the **Greatest Power Available**
to live an **Abundant & Overflowing** Life in Christ

Now - **we must begin** to live
Ever-Increasingly - Under His Influence

The **last 2 verses** we studied in **Rom** -
that **kicked off** these **3 messages** on the Holy Spirit . . .

were - **Rom 8:12-13 - ESV**

12 So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.

13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

Let's **LIVE** instead of **DIE**

To do that - we must "**Live by the Spirit**"
we must "**Walk in the Spirit**"

In an **Ever-Increasing Yielding** to His **Power**
Under an **Ever-Increasing Influence** of his **Presence**

Let's Pray