

REVIVE CHURCH- LIVING TO PLEASE THE HOLY SPIRIT

EPHESIANS SERIES #16

Chapter 4-began with walking in unity with one another, then moved to the five fold leadership gifts that Jesus left to equip the church it then looks at the new man empowered by the renewed mind. **The last section we are looking at today focuses on our fellowship with the Holy Spirit and with one another.**

Ephesians 4:24-32 24and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. 25Therefore, putting away lying, “Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,” for we are members of one another. 26“Be angry, and do not sin”: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, 27nor give place to the devil. 28Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need. 29Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. 30And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. 32And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

The new man operating in the power of the renewed mind is meant to have fellowship with God through the indwelling Holy Spirit. This is the most important relationship we have and we cannot take it lightly. The Holy Spirit is not an idea or a thing, He is the third person of the Trinity, He is fully God, He is the promise of the Father, the One who purifies our hearts, renews our mind, empowers, anoints for ministry and calling, brings revelation of the word of God and the person of Christ. He brings conviction, correction, releases hunger and fascination. You cannot live the Christian life without the power of the Holy Spirit.

This last section of Chapter 4 reminds us of the responsibility we have to one another in the body of Christ and how our relationship with one another impacts our fellowship with the Holy Spirit. *25Therefore, putting away lying, “Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,” for we are members of one another.*

We are members of one another, therefore we have a responsibility to each other! We belong to the body of Christ.

1. **Put on the new man which is characterized as righteous and holy**
2. Put away lying and **speak truthful**
3. Be angry, and **do not sin**
4. Don't let the sun go down on your wrath
5. Don't give place to the devil
6. Don't steal anymore but **work with your hands so that you have something to give those in need.**

7. Don't let any corrupt word come out of your mouth rather speak what good for edification that it may release grace to the hearers
8. Do not grieve the Spirit of God
9. Let all bitterness, wrath, anger clamor, evil speaking be put away from you with all malice (ill will)
10. Be kind, tender hearted, forgiving one another even as God in Christ forgave you.

If we want to live a life that is blessed by the Presence of God there are things we will not do and there are things we will do. Find out what grieves the Holy Spirit and don't do that, find out what please the Holy Spirit and set your heart, mind, emotions and actions upon those things. Live a life that pleases God.

This is a truth that all of us need to understand. You can please the Holy Spirit through your actions and you can grieve the Holy Spirit through your actions. If you are born again through faith in Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit lives in you. However, if you do not live to please Him, He does not rest upon your life in fellowship. Fellowship is essential beloved! That is the place of oneness where God releases His peace, His Joy, His nature in gifts and in fruit.

We cultivate fellowship with the Holy Spirit through a lifestyle of purity, devotion and attentiveness to Him. He won't adjust to us we must adjust to Him individually and as a community. As we become more acquainted with God's ways, the dove will consequently come down on us with the belief that His fire falling will not be far away. If we create the conditions whereby the ungrieved Spirit is it home with us We will experience in greater measure his divine activity. The Holy Spirit though not a dove, has characteristics that can be found in the dove. There is a specific reason that God chose the dove to teach us. (RT.Kendall's book-Pigeon Religion, Holy Spirit is that you)

In the law of first mention we can often times gain fresh revelation

Genesis 8:9 -But the dove found no resting place for the sole of her foot, and she returned into the ark to him, for the waters were on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took her, and drew her into the ark to himself.

John 1:32- John testified saying, "I have seen the Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven, and He remained upon Him.

First, the dove (Holy Spirit) is looking for a resting place! When the Holy Spirit descend from heaven and upon Jesus at His baptism, He remained upon Him, His entire life. Remember the goal is not just a visit but to become a resting place. God's people are purposed to be a resting spot for the dove to remain.

God want us to have unbroken fellowship with Him so that we can be full of His Presence and expose His glory by living like Jesus. There are three do not's concerning the Holy Spirit. Do not grieve, Do not quench, do not blaspheme. Our primary focus today is do not grieve the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is a person, the person of God and He can be grieved!

Do not grieve - (GR. Lupeo) to make sorrowful, it can mean get your feelings hurt but not in the way we traditionally think. Be sensitive to Holy Spirit because making decision with the Spirit in mind and awareness of His Presence. God's emotions are perfect and holy and we can grow in our understanding of His ways.

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit is sandwiched in between a lot of do not's concerning how we treat one another. We grieve the Spirit mostly by wrong attitude, primarily bitterness. Grieving the Holy Spirit is mostly internal, it is in our inner man, our hearts, (hateful thoughts, evil desires or wishes) most of what grieves the Holy Spirit is an unforgiving spirit that manifests itself in bitterness, which is inward anger. We grieve him when inwardly we lose control and we lose the presence of his mind, we quench the spirit when he is at work outwardly and we object to his ways. *Jesus taught us that lust and murder begin in the heart, don't let the temptation give birth in your inner man. (Matthew 5:28)*

Ephesians 4:31-32 - Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

We grieve the Holy Spirit when we are not operating out of love for one another. Bitterness towards people, anger, losing your temper, being impatient and speaking bad about someone, holding a grudge and allowing unforgiveness to remain, pointing the finger of accusation all grieve God.

What happens when I grieve the Holy Spirit? Not if, but when. I do not lose my salvation, I lose the sense of His manifest (Known and felt) presence. I do not lose the Holy Spirit, when He comes, He comes to stay and we can be totally secure in the truth of God's word, we are saved by grace through faith (Eph 2:8), however His peace, Joy, Abounding Hope, tangible love, your sense of purpose, pleasure may all diminish outside of unbroken fellowship. Staying in this place leads to dullness of heart, losing first love, loss of the realization of sonship, no desire for the things of God, Luke warm living.

How do I get fellowship restored? Repent of any sin that grieved the Holy Spirit and ask that the fruit of the Holy Spirit would come to greater maturity so that you can rightly represent Jesus Christ. **The fruit of the Holy Spirit will manifest the life of Jesus Christ.** There is always an exchange that needs to take place. God does not want us living in any type of sin or grievance, He longs for fellowship. *Acts 3:19 Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord,*

- **Ask for His feelings to be made known to you**-love what He loves and hate what He hates. **Do what Moses did and ask God to show you His ways.** Get to know Him through the word of God and time spend in prayer.

We should be more sensitive to the Holy Spirit than anyone or anything else. What is important to God, needs to be our priority because we long for perfect fellowship.

The more sensitive you become to the Spirit you will recognize more quickly when you do something that grieves Him. **God wants us to close the time gap between sin and repentance. IN other words don't wait!** As soon as you realize you have grieved God in any way, repent, be restored and refreshed. You can walk in such a way that the Holy Spirit will speak to you prior to making any decision that would upset Him. If we want to pursue a life of unbroken fellowship with God then we will do everything with the dove in mind.

The Holy Spirit can be quenched. *1 Thessalonians 5:19-Do not quench the Spirit.*

In Scripture the Spirit is revealed as dove, fire, oil, water and wind. Each showing different aspects of the Spirit. Quenching the Spirit refers to fire. You could only put out a fire that exists, therefore quenching the Spirit implies the Spirit is at work but man can put out what He is doing. **We Quench the Spirit, when we are set in our preconceived ideas about the ways the Spirit can reveal Himself, or by not respecting His presence.** It is often fear, control, unbelief that quenches the fire of the Spirit. We want to be more responsive to how the Spirit is manifesting then responding from fear of man. **Fear of God helps us desire His fire and long for His Presence.**

- **Cessationism is the doctrine that spiritual gifts ceased with the apostolic age. This way of thinking quenches the Spirit of God. The dogmatic belief that the Holy Spirit stopped manifesting His gifts which include revelatory, power, and utterance gifts through the body of Christ which breeds unbelief, criticism and control.**
- **Commit to never put out the Spirit's fire and truly become a student of Holy Spirit.** This does not mean everything goes and it's always the Holy Spirit. *There is such a thing as strange fire (flesh)* We must commit to keep growing in intimacy, wisdom, knowledge and discernment of His ways.

Holy Spirit can be blasphemed

Matthew 12:31-32 –“Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men. Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come.

Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven. The unpardonable sin happens when one's final verdict is rejection concerning Jesus Christ as God in the flesh, (unbelief). **I don't believe this is something a believer can even do.**

In context the religious leaders were accusing Jesus of being Satan and calling the work He was doing by the power of the Holy Spirit the work of the devil.

Whenever anything in our life is out of balance we can ask some basic questions. Am I maintaining a lifestyle that cultivates His presence. Am I living out first love for Jesus and am I responding to others as Christ would.