

ENJOYING THE PRESENCE

LIFE
IN THE
SPIRIT

AND POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

WEEK ONE

REGENERATION
FROM THE SPIRIT

LIBERTI

"I wonder what would happen to most of our churches and Christian work if we woke up tomorrow morning and everything concerning the reality and work of the Holy Spirit, and everything concerning prayer were removed from the Bible? I don't mean just ignored, but actually cut out—disappeared. I wonder how much difference it would make?"

FRANCIS SCHAEFFER

1. YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN

JOHN 3:1-8 ESV

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ² 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." ³ Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

1. YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN

JOHN 3:1-8 ESV

⁴ 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?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

1. YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN

JOHN 3:1-8 ESV

⁷ Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' ⁸ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

“Over a hundred years ago in the Deep South, a phrase so common in our Christian culture today, *born again*, was seldom or never used. Rather, the phrase used to describe the breakthrough into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ was, “I was seized by the power of a great affection.” These words describe both **the initiative of God** and **the explosion within** the heart when Jesus...becomes real, alive, and Lord of one’s life.”

BRENNAN MANNING

WASHED AND MADE ALIVE

JOHN 3:5 ESV

⁵ Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

2. WASHED: GOD'S INITIATING LOVE

EZEKIEL 36:25-27

²⁵ I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you. I will remove from you your heart of stone and I will give you a heart of flesh." ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit within you, and **cause** you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. ²⁸ You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

2. WASHED: GOD'S INITIATING LOVE

TITUS 3:5-6 ESV

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Saviour appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by **the washing of regeneration** and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ **whom he poured out on us** richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour

3. MADE ALIVE: THE EXPLOSION WITHIN

COLOSSIANS 2:13 ESV

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, **God made alive** together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses

3. MADE ALIVE: THE EXPLOSION WITHIN

JOHN 3:9-16

⁹ Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹ Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.

3. MADE ALIVE: THE EXPLOSION WITHIN

JOHN 3:9-16

¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

3. MADE ALIVE: THE EXPLOSION WITHIN

JOHN 3:9-16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever **believes** in him should not perish but have eternal life.