

“Led by the Holy Spirit”

John 3 NIV

Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. **2** He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

3 Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

4 “How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

5 Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. **6** Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. **7** You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ **8** The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

Prayer: Lord help us to understand and embrace the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives...

Story: Jesse Duplantis - Testimony of Heaven

Jesse saw the throne and Jesus stepped out of the Father...

Then Jesse asked Jesus where’s the Holy Spirit...

Jesus said, The Holy Spirit is on the Earth...

Vs. 6

Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

1. We Need the Holy Spirit

Story: Conversation with Josiah in the truck

- Josiah shared how he has been asked the Lord to give him strength in the mornings... And the Lord has been helping him...
- He also shared about his experience this summer at The Ramp in Alabama...
- On the day when they were baptizing students, Josiah was torn whether he should get baptized or not... then he decided he would...
- He shared that when he got into the water he felt the Holy Spirit all over him...

We talking about how we need the Holy Spirit...

We need the Holy Spirit to truly repent

We need the Holy Spirit to be saved - Born Again

We need the Holy Spirit to worship God

We need the Holy Spirit to preach the Word, to understand the Word

We need the Holy Spirit to be an effective witness

We need the Holy Spirit to bring the presence of God into our homes and families...

I have decided, I want to live Under the Influence

Ephesians 5:18

Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit,

- Here the Apostle Paul gives an awesome alternative...

- “Instead, be filled with the Spirit” ...
- you can still be filled, now with something better than wine, it’s the Holy Spirit...
- This comes with life, not death...
- This comes with no regret...

I want to live Under the Influence

Preach Under the Influence

Love people Under the Influence

Witness Under the Influence

Parent Under the Influence

Pastor Under the Influence

- The Holy Spirit is not an idea or Christian expression...
- He is the real, literal, Spirit of the Living God...

Song: "I Feel Jesus"

I feel Jesus

I feel Jesus

I feel Jesus

In this place

Yes my soul does

Burn within me

I feel Jesus

In this place

- I love feeling his Presence...
- Nothing else can compare
- There is nothing like His presence in all the world...

Think About this:

- Jesus always felt the presence of the Holy Spirit
- Scripture says, Jesus had the Spirit without limit...
- There was only one time when Jesus didn’t feel the Holy Spirit and that’s when he was on the cross... “He said My God, My God, why have you forsaken me”

Romans 8

14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

2. The Holy Spirit Leads

Story of David:

1 Samuel 16

13 So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed David in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David.

1 Samuel 17

20 Early in the morning David left the flock in the care of a shepherd, loaded up and set out, as Jesse had directed. He reached the camp as the army was going out to its battle positions, shouting the war cry. 21 Israel and the Philistines were drawing up their lines facing each other. 22 David left his things with the keeper of supplies, ran to the battle lines and asked his brothers how they were. 23 As he was talking with them, Goliath, the Philistine champion from Gath, stepped out from his lines and shouted his usual defiance, and David heard it.

“from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David.”

- David was under the Influence of the Holy Spirit...
- Little did Jesse know that on that Day the Holy Spirit had something in mind...
- I bet David got a good nights sleep before that day...
- I bet David woke up that morning with a song of praise to God in his spirit, his heart full of joy and the present of God all over Him...

- I bet Goliath didn't...
- God was orchestrating the downfall of a Giant and he was about to use his anointed servant to do it...
- When we are filled and under the influence of the Holy Spirit, He leads us...
- He leads beyond our comprehension...
- He leads when we wonder what's next...
- He leads from unexpected normal circumstances to extraordinary ones... David went from tending sheep to killing Giants in one day...
- When He leads, He leads to victory...

“from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David.”

- When someone tells me that God told them something, I listen with my ears but I watch with my eyes, I wait for the outcome...
- I have never known the Holy Spirit to lead to defeat...
- Definitely not say; it's always easy or a believer can't go through a set back or failure...
- But when God speaks, He leads to victory...

3. The Holy Spirit is found by those who Look for Him

John 3:8

Jesus said

The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

Jesus likened the Holy Spirit to a wind...

The wind goes wherever it pleases...

You can hear it, but you can't tell where it comes from or where it goes...

I love that Jesus gave this expression

Because it sure makes sense...

Like the wind - You can't always predict what the Holy Spirit will do next... But you recognize when he moves...

Like the wind - You have to wait for the Holy Spirit...

Like the wind - You have to look for the Holy Spirit...

Illustration: Fishing Pole

Like a fisherman:

He can't see what's beneath the water

He can't tell when a fish might hit the line

He waits...

He looks...

He anticipates...

When the line begins to move, he responds...

He engages with what he can't see...

But he can sense something on the other end of the line...

Isaiah 40:31 KJV

But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Closing Song

Jeremiah 29

11 For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

12 Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. **13** You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

Matthew 7

7 “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. **8** For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

9 “Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone?

10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? **11** If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!