

The Nearness of God

1 John 3:24

John puts quite a bit of emphasis on obedience.

Confirmation & Clarity

1 John 2:3 Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.

1 John 2:4 He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

1 John 3:22 And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.

1 John 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.

That those who know the Lord and love the Lord listen to and follow the Lord. To follow is to receive instruction, direction, and correction.

Believe & Be Loving

1. Believe on Jesus Christ
2. Sacrificially and actively love one another

Abiding and Obedience go hand in hand.

Abide = To be joined to and to live in harmony with another.

1 John 3:24 Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

This is one of the ways that a marriage should emulate the relationship the church has with God. ***Not one against the other, but, one with the other... as one.***

Q: So, who abides in who? Who is in harmony with who?

You with God or God with you?

YES! (haha)

Like a dance partner, the man leads the woman but both are dancing.

"As you increase in your obedience, you increase in your abiding."

Opening the garden spicket to let water out.
Every act of obedience let's out more water.

John 7:37-39 On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. “He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

On the last day, that great day of the feast: The Feast of Tabernacles lasted eight days. All through the first seven days water from the Pool of Siloam was carried in a golden pitcher and poured out at the altar to remind everyone of the water God miraculously provided for a thirsty Israel in the wilderness. It seems that on the eighth day there was *no* pouring of water — only prayers — to remind them that they came into the Promised Land.

By This We Know (3x)

Have learned, observed, and now know (Joyous, steadfast confidence.)
By the Spirit whom ***He has given*** us.

1 John 3:24 Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him.
And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

Three rolls of the Holy Spirit posture

- Para – with
- En – indwelling at Salvation
- Epi – Upon (Acts 1:8, 2, 10:44, 19:6, Eph. 1:13-14)

PARA – WITH/ALONGSIDE

John 14:15-17 “If you love Me, keep My commandments. “And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever — “the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with (para) you and will be in (en) you.

It is better that I go

John 16:7-11 “Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. “And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: “of sin, because they do not believe in Me; “of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; “of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

En – The indwelling of The Holy Spirit

(John 14 “will be” in you... post cross)

The moment you receive Christ as your savior.

Sealed

Ephesians 1:3-4 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Adopted by Abba

Romans 8:15-16 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

Testimony of the Spirit

John Westly “... *an inward impression on the soul, whereby the Spirit of God immediately and directly witnesses to my spirit, that I am a child of God.*”

The child of God has an inward confirmation that they belong to the Lord.

He is mine and I am His...

1 John 3:20 For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.

2 Timothy 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

Are you walking by fear or faith?

Fear has many disguises

I have decided how I will handle things, how I will respond to situations, I have decided what is right and what is wrong... Question, **does God agree with you?**

- But God, I am afraid
- But God, what if
- But God, I'm not comfortable with
- But God,...

He will sit and silently wait for all the air to leak out of our self-righteousness or fearful defenses. Once it is deflated and lying flat on the floor, He will breathe, not just new life but HIS LIFE into you, into your thinking... and the walk of faith begins.

Epi – Upon you (Like a dove not a baseball bat)

Acts 1:8 “But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

- Miracle working power
- Gifts of the Spirit kind of power
- Breaking demonic strongholds power

Jesus power = super power

Satan power = no power

Moody was to have a campaign in England. An elderly pastor protested, "Why do we need this 'Mr. Moody'? He's uneducated, inexperienced, etc. Who does he think he is anyway? Does he think he has a monopoly on the Holy Spirit?" A younger, wiser pastor rose and responded, "No, but the Holy Spirit has a monopoly on Mr. Moody."

Greater Works

John 14:12 “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

Under Persecution

Mark 13:11 “But when they arrest you and deliver you up, do not worry beforehand, or premeditate what you will speak. But whatever is given you in that hour, speak that; for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit.

Peter filled again – unlimited courage (End of the Spear)

Acts 4:7-10 And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, “By what power or by what name have you done this?”

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders of Israel: “If we this day are judged for a good deed done to a helpless man, by what means he has been made well, “let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole.

There is absolutely an inseparable relationship between your prayer life and the power of God in your life. – Odds are, a prayerless life is also a powerless life.

Acts 4:31 And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

Have you received the Spirit of God?

Paul in Ephesus – Acts 19 (Believe on Him who would come after him...)

Ephesians 5:8 “do not be drunk with wine... but be filled with the Holy Spirit.

ASK – Luke 11:9-13

Every day

Right away

Your heavenly Father wants to give good gifts to you... including the power of the Spirit of God.

Whom He has given... past tense

Rather than looking for something new, what if we leaned into what God says is true.

1 John 3:24 Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

2 Corinthians 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.

Running on Empty and want a fresh filling?

MOODY = We must be emptied before we can be filled.