

Making Friends for God: Lesson #5 — Spirit-Empowered Witnessing

Memory Verse

Acts 4:31 (NKJV) *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”*

Jesus and the Promise of the Holy Spirit

John 14:15–16 (NKJV) *“If you love Me, keep My commandments. ¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—*

Matthew 28:19 *Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:*

John 3:5 (NKJV) *Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.*

John 16:7 *Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.*

An Empowered Church

Matthew 3:11 *I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.*

Zechariah 4:6 (NKJV) *So he answered and said to me: “This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ Says the Lord of hosts.*

Luke 24:49 (NKJV) *Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.” **The Oil of the Spirit keeps the light on.***

- I have a glove here in my hand. The glove cannot do anything by itself, but when my hand is in it, it can do many things. True, it is not the glove, but my hand in the glove that acts. We are gloves. It is the Holy Spirit in us who is the hand, who does the job. We have to make room for the hand so that every finger is filled. -- Corrie Ten Boom
- We have all seen a child running across the meadow with a kite to get it up in the air. They create an artificial breeze by running. But they can only do that for so long before they are worn out. How much better is that child just prays for wind that lifts the kite. This makes me think about the experience of many Christians who are their trying their best to live the Christian life without the power.

The great work of the gospel is not to close with less manifestation of the power of God than marked its opening. The prophecies which were fulfilled in the outpouring of the former rain at the opening of the gospel are again to be fulfilled in the latter rain at its close. Here are "the times of refreshing" to which the apostle Peter looked forward when he said: "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; and He shall send Jesus." Acts 3:19, 20.

Servants of God, with their faces lighted up and shining with holy consecration, will hasten from place to place to proclaim the message from heaven. By thousands of voices, all over the earth, the warning will be given. Miracles will be wrought, the sick will be healed, and signs and wonders will follow the believers. Satan also works, with lying wonders, even bringing down fire from heaven in the sight of men. Revelation 13:13. Thus the inhabitants of the earth will be brought to take their stand. GC 612

Few Hummers are ever taken off-road

The Holy Spirit and Witnessing

Matthew 4:1 (NKJV) *Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit...*

Acts 2:38 (NKJV) *Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

Luke 24:48-49 *You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”*

Hebrews 2:3-4 (NKJV) *how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, ⁴ God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?*

Acts 1:8 (NKJV) *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.”*

Acts 4:31 (NKJV) *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.*

Psalm 51:11-13 *Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, And uphold me by Your generous Spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, And sinners shall be converted to You.*

The Holy Spirit, the Word, and Witnessing

John 14:26 (NKJV) *But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.*

Acts 8:26–33 (NKJV) Now **an angel of the Lord** spoke to Philip, saying, “Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is desert. ²⁷ So he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship, ²⁸ was returning. And sitting in his chariot, he was reading Isaiah the prophet. ²⁹ **Then the Spirit** said to Philip, “Go near and overtake this chariot.” ³⁰ So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹ And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him. ³² The place in the Scripture which he read was this: “He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; And as a lamb before its shearer is silent, So He opened not His mouth. ³³ In His humiliation His justice was taken away, And who will declare His generation? For His life is taken from the earth.”

John 6:63 *It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.*

The ancient Arabs used a pigeon on a string as compass.

John 16:13 *“However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.*

The Holy Spirit is often the “still small voice” we hear.

Revelation 2:7 *He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches;*

Weather reading the Bible or listening to a sermon the Holy Spirit gives life to the word, and us ears to hear.

- **Lighthouse keeper gave away the oil. Several ships were wrecked. The specific purpose of the special oil was keep the light burning.**

The Life-Transforming Power of the Holy Spirit

Ezekiel 36:27 *“I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.*

Someone once said the Holy Spirit helps us to UNDERSTAND the truth with our heads, BELIEVE it in our hearts, then LIVE it with our hands FOLLOW it with our feet. Or you might say, wisdom, then worship, works, then walk.

“There is no limit to the usefulness of one who, putting self aside, makes room for the working of the Holy Spirit upon his heart and lives a life wholly consecrated to God.” —The Desire of Ages, p.250

John 3:5 (NKJV) *Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.*

Romans 8:6 (NKJV) *For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.*

Romans 8:13, 14 *For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.*

Acts 5:32 *“And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him.”*

- When a submarine loses power and becomes stuck at the bottom of the ocean, the rescue team will surrounded it with these large empty bags then they fill them with the air from above and it raises the sub.

Acts 16:13–15 (NKJV) *And on the Sabbath day we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met there. ¹⁴ Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul. ¹⁵ And when she and her household were baptized, she begged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” So she persuaded us.*

2 Corinthians 5:17 *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.*

Galatians 5:22–23 *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,*

Romans 5:5 *... because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.*

John 14:27 (NKJV) *Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. **Depressed witness.***

Acts 9:31 *Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied.*

Romans 14:17 (NKJV) ⁷ *for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.*

Some people go through life with anxious agony.

People around the world take drugs, or pop pills or drink alcohol looking for peace and joy. Nothing will satisfy like the Holy Spirit!