

I. THE NECESSITY OF FELLOWSHIPING WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

- A. At the new birth, Jesus comes to live in our hearts by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit comes to live in our spirit as a real Person. The uncreated life of God dwelling in us is the core reality of the new birth. The new birth is much more than being forgiven. The glory of the New Covenant is that at our new birth, the Spirit makes us one spirit with God. (John 3:5-8; 1 Cor. 6:17; John 14:17)

NASB 1 Cor. 6:17 But the one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit with Him.

- B. We are called to live by the Spirit, not by the flesh.

NASB Galatians 5:25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

When we pay attention primarily to our flesh, we neglect the Spirit.

Luke 1:80 And the child grew and became strong in spirit; and he lived in the desert until he appeared publicly to Israel.

II. FIVE PRACTICAL WAYS TO FELLOWSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

A. “THANK YOU”

We recognize the Spirit’s presence in us simply by thanking Him for it. *“Thank you HS, for Your bright presence in me, I am Yours, manifest Yourself to me.”*

NASB 2 Cor. 3:18 But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

B. “RELEASE REVELATION”

We are asking the Holy Spirit to release revelation of God’s heart, word and purpose to you (Eph. 1:17-19)

C. “USE ME”

We thank the Holy Spirit for His power to minister to others. *“Thank you, Holy Spirit, for Your gifts and for Your desire to release them in me. Lord, lead me; in my speech (Ps. 141:3), into divine appointments/opportunities (Rom. 8:14), and away from Satan’s traps/temptations. Spirit, I love Your will and ways, therefore, manifest Your leadership in me.”*

1 Cor. 12:7 Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

D. “STRENGTHEN ME”

“Holy Spirit, Living Flame of Love, thank you for Your indestructible love, peace, patience, and self-control.”

1. A common misunderstanding is to try to overcome the flesh by fighting it in the power of the flesh.
 - a. We are not called to just try to live better. Trying to live in the power of our soul or flesh will lead to disappointment.
 - b. We are to consider ourselves dead to sin. We are alive to God in Christ Jesus. For me, to live is Christ (Phil. 1:21). If you have been fighting the flesh. You can stop now.

Rom 6:6, 11 For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin.. ¹¹In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

- c. Our focus and fellowship needs to be on the HS, not on darkness.

2. The Holy Spirit empowers our emotions. The emotional resources of the Spirit or the power of God on our emotions has 9 different facets.

NASB Galatians 5:16, 19, 22-23 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh... ¹⁹ Now the deeds of the flesh are evident... ²² But the fruit (result) of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law..

3. We need to focus on the presence of the indwelling Holy Spirit in our war against sin. Many put their primary focus on the necessity of denying sinful desires. We walk in the Spirit or walk in the light as the condition for overcoming lust.

NASB Romans 8:6 For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace.

- a. We are to put off the old self and to put on the new self (Eph 4:22-24; Rom. 6:11-13).

Eph. 4:22-24 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³ to be made new in the attitude of your minds; 24 and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

- b. We need to think differently about ourselves in light of Jesus having died for us on the cross (Eph. 4:23)

Rom 12:2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-- his good, pleasing and perfect will.

4. I am not defined by my failure or by my accomplishments. I am not despised by God, nor am I a hopeless hypocrite because of my weakness. We must live by our spiritual identity (what we look like to God) instead of our natural identity (what we look like to others) by confessing, “Jesus, I am Your beloved, Your favorite one. A disciple You love” (John 21:7).

- E. **“TEACH ME”** “Consuming Fire, teach me Your ways. I love Your ways and Your thoughts.” (Jh. 14:26; 1Jh. 2:27)