

Knowing the Holy Spirit

2017/12/1 SJCA Bible Study

- I. The Lord Jesus knew He was about to be crucified, to depart the world to go to the Father. On the last night he was with the disciples, He told them to not be sad for He would not forsake them as orphans, and that it was actually good for them that He goes for He would send down the promised Comforter, Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is to be with the disciples just as the Lord Jesus was, and is to be with them forever, to never leave them. (John 14:16-17). Therefore, when the Book of Acts records the descent of the Holy Spirit, that is the resurrected Jesus coming back to our midst.

The Holy Spirit is a person of the Triune God, who is God Himself. He is living, has feelings, has responses, and He speaks; just as Jesus was beside the disciples, the Holy Spirit not only is with us, He is also the Counselor in all things. When singing hymns, the Holy Spirit moves our hearts; when grieved, the Holy spirit comforts and encourages us; when reading the Scripture with a heart of reverence, the Holy Spirit is like a translator, revealing the word of God to us, enlightening us, and helping us to follow the word of God. The Holy Spirit teaches us in all things, He guides us to walk every step...; through the Holy spirit, all of God's promises become real.

God gives the Holy Spirit to all who believe in Jesus, when Christians are born again, the Holy Spirit comes to dwell within. It takes time to know someone, and experiencing the Holy Spirit is no exception. The Holy Spirit is God Himself, His moving must be consistent with the word of God. If we do something that is displeasing to God, we might not have felt anything in the past, but now after we believe in the Lord there is a feeling of unease -- this is the Holy spirit correcting us. The Holy Spirit's moving in the beginning is often a gentle feeling, we need to obey that feeling. The more we obey the Holy Spirit, the more sensitive we will be to His moving. In the past, we made decisions on our own. Now if we learn to seek God's mind, the Holy Spirit will teach us in all things; this is the leading of the Holy Spirit. Thus, we can experience the Holy Spirit in us is living, and is real!

II. Thoughts and Sharing:

1. After you believed in the Lord, has the Holy Spirit enlightened you, or caused you to know you were wrong? Or perhaps in the past you didn't think something was wrong, and now you feel unease? How did you deal with this enlightenment or feeling? What is the outcome as you obey the moving of the Holy Spirit? What outcome have you seen when you did not obey right away?
2. For those who have experiences please share: how do you seek God's leading with your heart and time? How does the Holy Spirit speak to you? How do you obey the teaching of the Holy Spirit?

“Do not quench the Spirit.”(1Thessalonians 5:19)