Basic message 9 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

Life with the Spirit

Ignorance of the Holy Spirit is equivalent to ignorance of God. If we do not receive the Holy Spirit, we cannot acquire new life; after receiving new life, if we still do not know what the conviction of the Holy Spirit is, we will have no way of realistically communicating with God. The reason for a saved soul to be able to restore the communication with God, step onto the route of sanctification, enjoy and use the power of God during his daily Christian living, starts from inside his life where he himself acquired what he has never experienced before the "spiritual feelings" that the Holy Spirit brought.

1. What is the state of life of the person who has not yet received the Holy Spirit? <1Co 2:6-9, 14; Eph 2:1-3>

- 1) His thoughts, conviction and judgment are completely separated from God and completely unrelated with the intent of God
- 2) Under the domination of evil spirits, deceived, manipulated, hinted, accused, yoke of slavery
- 3) Bound under the power of sin, thought only for the cravings of the flesh and lust of the eyes, and the boastings of his life
- 4) Their thoughts can only beat and circle round and round the scope of the science, general knowledge, humanism and experience of the world
- 5) No matter how hard God is sought, will still live in disbelief, superstitions, blind faith and doubts

2. When does the Holy Spirit enter my heart to stay, how does He work?

- 1) When we hear the gospel of Christ, touches us and gives us faith <1Co 12:3; Jn 1:13; Mt 16:17>
- 2) When we understand the gospel of Christ, believe in our hearts, confess with our mouths, the Holy Spirit will come in and stays inside forever <Eph 1:13-14; Jn 3:3-9; 1Co 3:16>
- 3) Gives us the Spirit of Sonship, so that we will know the love of the Father and able to call out "Abba Father" <Ro 8:15>
- 4) Causes us to adore the commandments of our Father, to pursue a holy living <Jn 14:16-26>
- 5) Through the word of God, causes us to gradually fathom all mysteries and the things that are to happen in future <1Jn 2:27; Jn 16:13-14; 1Co 2:15>
- 6) Let us know the length, width, height and depth of love and everlasting promises that God has hidden in Christ, so that we can have exceedingly victorious living <Eph 3:14-21>
- 7) During prayer, the Holy Spirit helps us, moves us, enables us to converse with God <Ro 8:26-27; 1Th 5:19>
- 8) Causes our life to bear fruits, revealing the evidences that God is with us <Gal 5:22-23>
- 9) In our living and serving, timely bestows spiritual gifts to help us <1Co 12:4-11>
- 10) Bestows faith, authority and power, helps us to testify Christ <Ac 1:8, 2:1-4>
- 11) Bestows the heart to love the church of God and parts of Christ's Body, and when saints gather together, moves amidst and do powerful works <Eph 4:1-3; Ac 2:37-47>

3. What are the causes that obstruct and wreck our communication with the Holy Spirit? <Gal 5:16-26; Ro 8:5-11; Eph 4:25-5:7>

- 1) Ignorance, doubt, disbelief (spiritual mysteries, assurance of salvation, promises, prayer, etc)
- 2) Stubbornness, willfulness (disobedience, wild ambitions, selfishness, refusing to give up own motives, purpose, plans and method)

- 3) Creeds, commandments, formalities and religions (old way of the written code, judge self, judge others)
- 4) Desires of the flesh, sinful thoughts (idleness, impulses, anger, greed, lies, promiscuousness)
- 5) Only seek the pleasure of men, pursue the fame of the world (comparison, strife, success ideology, pride, inferior complexity, jealousy)
- 6) Influenced by the surrounding environment and the words of men, lost promises (negative perspective, no peace, fear, discouragement)
- 7) Human-motivated zeal (excessive consideration, speech, deeds, no heart, no conviction, hurriedness)
- 8) Unhealthy pursuit of mystical phenomenon (blind faith, superstitions, various spiritual gift-bestowing movements)

4. How to experience the conviction and power of the Holy Spirit?

- 1) Correctly understand the essence of the gospel and must believe
- 2) Must know the correct "assurance of salvation"
- 3) Learn the word of God, and must believe and follow
- 4) Must understand the promises God had prepared in Christ, and must confirm them amidst our own life and experiences
- 5) Must open wide our spiritual eyes, acquire the spiritual feelings brought by the Holy Spirit
- 6) Hand over the sovereignty of our life and living to God, and must cast away our old self and impulsiveness
- 7) It is possible to walk with God only when the direction and goal of our life matches that of the eternal kingdom
- 8) Always have the heart to converse with God
- 9) When willing to share the mystery of the gospel and testimonies to others, greater power and anointing will come upon us
- 10) Must have fellowship with parts of Christ body, and must earnestly participate in church ministries