

**Moravian Church in South Africa  
Pentecost Meditations**

***Overall Theme: Live by the Spirit, Walk by  
the Spirit.***

***Text: Romans 8:1--17***



**Introduction**

Dear brothers and sisters, the Holy Spirit is one of God's most precious gifts to His beloved children. He takes up residence within the believers and empowers them to overcome sin and live for God's glory and purposes. However, the Spirit's power can be "turned off" or ignored. Only those who choose to live and walk with Him have unhindered access to His strength and guidance. Our Pentecost theme for this year is '**Live by the Spirit, Walk by the Spirit**'. The question is how do we live and walk by the Spirit? The answer is very simple. Walking by the spirit is just living a life in the spirit. It's living a life in the continual presence of the spirit of God. Jesus put it like this in **John 15**, that we need to abide in him, basically the same thing. If we abide in Jesus, the spirit is working within us. So as we abide in Jesus Christ, as we abide in that vine, as a branch abides in the vine, the Holy Spirit is pulsing the *spiritual sap* into us and producing then fruit in our lives.

So walking in the spirit is a God consciousness, it's pursuing God with all of our heart. It's to have no other idols or gods, but to serve the only true God, our Creator and Sustainer of life.

My dear brothers and sisters, being led by the Spirit should be the natural lifestyle of the children of God. When Paul talks about "walking" according to the Spirit, or "walking" according to the flesh, he's talking about what it is that motivates, propels, and directs us as we go through life.

Either we're being moved and led by the Holy Spirit, which is from God, or we're being moved and led by our own desires. When we trust God and walk according to the Spirit, God's desires become our desires and God's will becomes our will. We just need to hold our Father's hand and walk! Amen.

**Prayer:** *Thank you God for your grace, thank you for giving us this wonderful opportunity to meditate on your Word during this Pentecost Week. Thank you for your mercies. Father it's my heart's desire to live and walk by the Spirit. Let the fire of the Holy Spirit come afresh upon my life. We honour and praise you, in Jesus name. Amen*

**Have a blessed Pentecost week. Enjoy the meditations.**

**Rodger G Ruiters**[on behalf our bishop fellowship]



**Bishops**

*B Abrahams, S N N Ngqakayi, A Joemath, L Mcubusi, E Ndabambi, E Moos, E M Temmers, B C P Lottring*

## DAY ONE

### Walk in the Spirit by Obeying the Instructions/leadings of the Holy Spirit.

Texts for you to consult: Luke 2:27, Luke 4:1, Acts 20:22, *John 10:4*, John 14:26, John 16:13



The other day we had a very interesting question in the family when our 10yr old granddaughter asked: *What is the Holy Spirit?* We were all very excited to hear such an important but also challenging question being put on the table by a 10yr old. Needless to say, we had to answer her at a time when the Church is thinking aloud again about the definition and acts of the Holy Spirit.

One of the easiest routes to experiment with in such a question is thinking of what has very much become part of our modern lifestyle: the GPS. Well, you'll in any case have to be something of a cell phone fundi to use it but that even our younger children can help us with. In addition, you'll have to know how God's Spirit works.

The GPS or better known as the Global Positioning System will help you get to where you want to go. Isn't that the intended aim? We want to go somewhere or our purpose is to get to sometimes unknown points in life. And there you have it: the GPS was created for that.

Should you now consult the quoted texts above you will see that the Spirit, like our modern day GPS system, was very much there to guide those people indicated to some point in life. The difference however is that we have to do with a very much more sophisticated and inexpensive system in the person of the Holy Spirit. Cell phones and esp. those with good quality GPS systems cost quite a penny, while our Lord has put the Holy Spirit at our disposal at no financial cost to bring us to where He intends us to be.

The only expectation with the Holy Spirit is that you need to want to use and follow it. God's Spirit also comes with instructions which need to be followed. Those of us who have used the GPS system have found out that should you feed the wrong information into the system you'll lose your way. And you know that the slightest error in that information can have you end up at a wrong position or place. I recently tried to reach an otherwise known school from a different orientation and had the system guiding me in an opposite direction.

God's Holy Spirit needs to be followed and obeyed in a very strict sense or you will lose your way. Like with all systems we sometimes feel that we are in control or that we know better. The Spirit indicates that you are on the wrong path and you object because you think you know yourself and your way or goal in mind. This is esp. true when we have been on this path before. The Spirit speaks to us and warns us about the dangers on the way and we are brave enough to resist the guidance and will plan our own way.

Our spiritual GPS system is so sophisticated that it knows not only the paths around us, it knows the future. The GPS is a manmade tool with many unknown faults while our Holy Spirit comes from the highest order in the universe and therefore can guide us even into the unknown – if we are willing to obey it.

**Prayer:** *Dear Lord, I confess that I do not always listen to your guidance and therefore I have made unfortunate mistakes in life or even lost my way. Help me to remain tuned in to your guidance and be obedient to it. Amen.*

## DAY TWO

### Walk in the Spirit by Throwing off Hindrances

**Romans 8: 13:** *“For if you live according to your human nature, you are going to die; but if by the Spirit you put to death your sinful actions, you will live.”*

**Hebrews 12:1:** *“So then let us rid ourselves of everything that gets in the way, and of the sin which holds on to us so tightly”.*

In our Hebrew text, Paul is teaching, and communicating to believers that there is the certainty of enjoying a vigorous spiritual life when we put to death the deeds of the flesh. Attempting to live the Christian life without the supernatural assistance of the Holy Spirit is futile.

Therefore he commands us to shed and throw off those things in our lives that hinder our Walk in the Spirit. And the means of accomplishing this is the Spirit and Him alone. It is the Holy Spirit who helps us to overcome the flesh and to live in obedience to God. Indeed, there isn't any temptation we face that we can't overcome by the power of God's Spirit in us.

Shedding the deeds of the flesh is the duty of all Christians and it means “to put to death,” or “to kill” the sinful actions that threatens to hinder us in our walk of faith. Having done so believers have **the promise of life** which is greater participation and enjoyment of the spiritual life God has already given us in Christ. Thus, we must resist the desires of our bodies in order to experience Christ and the liberating power of the Holy Spirit.

Even the most devout believers, who are freed from the condemning power of sin, have to make it their business all their days to throw off and withstand the indwelling power of sin. Our strength, continued dedication and power, and comfort of our spiritual life depend on the throwing off of the deeds of the flesh. This we do by practicing a faithful prayer life, diligence in Scripture reading, fasting, worship and service. These spiritual practices shape our inner life and they direct our lives toward spiritual things. Moreover, by practicing these disciplines, we open ourselves up to the Holy Spirit's transformative power.

Our witness as followers of Jesus Christ, demands that we live and act differently to the unbelievers, and to this end our words should be a reflection of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Believers should not allow anything to hinder them in arranging their lives and living their faith, in any way other than what God would want it to be. This is the point which Hebrews 12:1 tries to convey when the writer says: *“So then let us rid ourselves of everything that gets in the way, and of the sin which holds on to us so tightly”.* If believers do not pay heed it is as good as participating in a race wearing a heavy coat while carrying heavy packs on one's back.

Even if it is at great sacrifice, believers should throw away and shed those hindrances which prevent us from living as God wants us.

### Prayer

*Lord, we strive to walk and live by the Spirit, but confess that so often we allow the desires of the flesh and other distractions to hinder our walk of faith. Forgive us Lord, as we pray that*



*through Your Spirit you will renew us in our minds and actions. Teach us to be attentive to the guidance of Your Spirit, and make us obedient followers. Amen*

## DAY THREE

### Walk in the Spirit by Presenting Your Body as a Living Sacrifice



*“Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”—Romans 12:1-2, NKJV*

Dear brothers and sisters to present your body a living sacrifice, sounds like a big commitment. It is! That’s what Jesus did for us—He presented His body a living sacrifice. But what does this really mean? How do you present your body as a living sacrifice to God?

To present your body to God is to surrender your whole self to him, to say: *‘Lord, I am yours. Everything that I am – body and soul – I present it to you. You are my Lord. Use me, Lord, to accomplish your purposes, and to bring honour to your most holy name’*. This is what it means to present your body as a sacrifice to God. It means, lay aside the things of the world, being willing to walk away from anything that is not pleasing to the Lord.

Paul is talking about an entirely new and different way of living. A life led by the spirit and not the flesh. Paul says because of God’s great mercy toward us we should give our bodies in service to Him.

When Paul says “bodies” he is talking about our flesh. We are no longer to gratify our flesh with sinful desires, but use them for serving and worshiping God. He says this is the “reasonable” thing for us to do in light of what God has done for us.

Our flesh needs to be crucified daily like Paul did. (1Corinthians 15:31) Offering ourselves to God is not something that should be contained within a sixty-minute worship service. A living sacrifice is a sacrifice that is alive and continuous in action. This means worship occurs not just in the sanctuary but in our whole world. That’s why Paul calls it a “living” sacrifice. We are given opportunities every day to sacrifice our own wants and needs for the furthering of God’s kingdom. As we daily sacrifice, let us keep in mind that everything we do in the name of Jesus Christ is a gift to the One who paid it all at Calvary. In the Old Testament, when a sacrifice was brought to the altar the animal was killed. It needed to be presented to the Lord only once as a sacrificial offering. But in the New Testament, our bodies are presented to God as a “living” sacrifice. This means we must make a daily decision to present our bodies to the Lord to serve Him and live for Him. The big question is how?

Firstly, it’s a choice. It is up to us to “offer” our bodies to God. God doesn’t force us. No one else can do it for us. Only we can choose to offer our flesh as a living sacrifice.

Secondly, realize every day is a new day with opportunities. We need to start each day with a prayer of consecration in which we purposely with a humble attitude present ourselves and all that we are to God’s purposes.

Thirdly, while it is our decision and choice to surrender ourselves to the Lord, we must not forget that it is still a work of the spirit. *“It’s not might, nor by power, but by my Spirit,” says the LORD Almighty.*” (Zechariah 4:6)

Dear brothers and sisters, the goal of the Christian life can be summed up by Galatians 2:20: "*I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*" Such a life of surrender is pleasing to God, results in the greatest human fulfillment and will reap ultimate rewards in heaven. Amen.

#### PRAYER

*God Almighty, I surrender my life to you today, take charge of my life. May I live in accordance to your will. Help me to live as Christ and to die to the flesh. In Jesus mighty name. Amen*



## DAY FOUR

**To walk in the Spirit is to walk towards the light and love of Jesus**

**Scripture Readings:** John 8: 12; John 13: 34; Ephesians 5: 2

In the Scripture the expression “walking” did not always refer to a physical move from one place to another activity. Rather, it describes more our daily living and the continuing conduct of a believer. In other words, it is a journey; a growing experience in faith. Walking in the Spirit means relying completely in everything upon the ability and power of God, the Holy Spirit, who lives in us.

The traveller, lost in the dark, moves instinctively toward a beaconing light in the distance. How many times have we during times of load shedding kept a torch or a candle handy so as not to be trapped in the dark and/or hurt ourselves.

The bible uses the symbolism of light and darkness to illustrate the conflict between good and evil, truth and falsehood. Jesus said: ***“I am the light of the world; he/she that follows me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light (the good, truth and faith) of life.”*** Where Jesus is, truth triumphs over evil, love over hatred and peace over strife. Martin Luther King, Jr. said: ‘Darkness cannot conquer darkness, only light can do that. Hatred cannot conquer hatred, only love can do it.’

The defining characteristic of Christians should be love. Like fruit on a tree, it is produced through the life that comes from God and that works continuously in us. Jesus said: ***“By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another”*** (Jn. 13: 35) To love as Christ loved makes it possible to love the unlovable and the undesirable or one who has mistreated you. It is not a sentimental kind of love, but a true God-inspired love. “As I have loved you” is thus a look away from ourselves but to Him who has set us an example. He loved unconditionally and gave his life for sinners. The Apostle Paul writes in Romans 5: 5: ***“God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit.*** This divine love urges us to care and to share. It urges us to act to the advantage of all whom God has placed within the radius of our love. Remember the parable of Jesus in Matthew 25: 31 – 40 where He refers to the variety of needy situations within our context. Throughout His earthly ministry, Jesus has demonstrated the tangible ways to care for those in need. Therefore it should come as no surprise that He expects his followers to do the same. This service is ultimately not to the poor, but to Christ himself.

The world is still in a dark and sad place because of the perilous disease of Covid-19 that

threaten human lives. Many are out of jobs, money and food. A great many have lost their livelihood and some even their lives. This situation calls us, as Sisters and Brothers in fellowship, to act and participate through actions of support designed to ease the burden of those who suffer in our communities - collecting food parcels for the hungry; warm blankets for those living on the street or spreading the Good News through available media platforms, etc.

May we take courage and pray that the Holy Spirit would strengthen us to walk humbly and faithfully “.....*fix(ing) your eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of your faith.*”(Heb. 12: 2) and thankfully “..... *walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and has given himself for us as an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savour.*”(Eph. 5: 2) May God bless us all.

**Prayer:**

*Holy Spirit, since I started walking in your light, the darkness has disappeared. The magnificent light that you radiate leads me on. Dear Lord, in your power, help us to trust you and faithfully walk the path that you set before us. I know your love will lead us to victory. Praise be to your Name. Amen.*

**DAY FIVE**

**Walking in the spirit means facing and fighting the battle.**

Scripture Readings: 1 John 4:3, 2Cor 10:3—5, Eph. 6: 11—17, Eph. 6:11-17, Rom 8, 1 Cor 15:57, John 10:10

When reference is made in the Bible to the “walk” of a person or a people, it refers to how that person or people conduct their lives. As human beings, created by God in His image, we have a free will to conduct our lives as we see fit, within the boundaries of the law, most people would say. However, we know that some do not even respect the law in the way that they live. Paul narrows down the choice of how one conduct one’s life to a life according to the flesh and a life according to the spirit. Romans 8: 5-17 distinguishes between the two types of lives in the following way:



<b>Life according to the flesh</b>	<b>Life according to the Spirit</b>
Minds set on what the flesh desires	Mind set on what the Spirit desires
Ultimate result: Death	Ultimate result: Life and peace
Hostile to God, does not submit to God’s law	Spirit of God lives within
Cannot please God	God’s children—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ

Believers in Christ find themselves in the realm of the Spirit and are led by the Spirit. They submit to God; their minds are set on what the Spirit desires and not on their fleshly desires. The Spirit of God lives within them and they walk in the Spirit. But we have to acknowledge that there is a constant, fierce contest for the hearts, minds, bodies and souls of mankind. This battle is waged on the spiritual front (Eph. 6: 12). As believers, we need to acknowledge the reality of this spiritual battle and not deny its existence, or worse, play on different sides whenever it suits us. We are called upon to commit to conducting our lives in the Spirit,

walking in the Spirit and fighting against evil. To fight this battle, we shall need special weapons. 2 Cor. 10: 3-5 describes these as *“weapons that can demolish strongholds, ... arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God.”* The full armour of God includes the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. (Eph. 6: 14-17)

Make no mistake: this spiritual battle is intense. At various points in life, believers may be tempted to feel that the battle is lost, so strong is the pull of the flesh in our modern society and the alienation that the believer feels because his/her belief puts him/her at odds with what is popularly held in an ever-secularizing society. However, surrender is no option for the believer. We are called upon, like Timothy, to “flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. <sup>12</sup> Fight the good fight of the faith.” (1 Tim 6: 11-12)

We have the assurance from God, that victory will be ours in the end. We shall emerge as more than conquerors, for there is no force in the physical or spiritual realm that can separate us from the love of Christ. This is not empty triumphalism, but humble assertiveness, standing on the promises of the Almighty God in His Word. Amen

**Prayer:** *Dear Father God, as believers we yearn to live lives that are controlled by the Spirit. Open our hearts, minds, bodies and souls for the reign of the Spirit. Let the Spirit fall afresh upon us in our time and give us the strength to face and to fight the good fight every day of our lives. In Jesus Name, Amen!*

## DAY SIX

**Walking in the Spirit involves: Listen, trust and obey.**



Hebrews 3:7-11, Ezekiel 2:2, Matthew 10:19-20, Mark 13:11 , John 14:23-24

Dear beloved in Christ, is it possible to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit? Jesus told His disciples, *“But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come”* (John 16:13).

The Holy Spirit speaks to our hearts and leads us in the right direction when we learn to **listen**. You know it is possible to hear the voice of the Spirit when we humble ourselves to be quiet. *“Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest”* (Mark 6:31). We are sometimes too busy to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit. Being quiet before the Lord is more than just not talking. It’s quieting our anxious thoughts and meditating on His word as we wait to hear from the Holy Spirit.

We must take the time to reflect on our words, actions, and thoughts if we want to hear from God.

Dear brothers and sisters, it's difficult to hear from the Holy Spirit when we don't know his Word. Everything the Holy Spirit speaks to our hearts will line up perfectly with Scripture. Through consistent exposure of the Bible, we will gain greater confidence in hearing the voice of the Spirit. But listening and knowing are not enough, we have an obligation to live a specific and obedient lifestyle. Obedience, then, is a requirement of our faith. *'For it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God's sight, but it is those who **obey** the law who will be declared righteous.'* Romans 2:13

In Jesus Christ we find the perfect model of obedience. As his disciples, we follow Christ's example as well as his commands. Over and over again we read in the Bible that God blesses and rewards obedience. Through obedience we experience the blessings of holy living. Only Jesus Christ is perfect, therefore, only he could walk in sinless obedience. But as we allow the Holy Spirit to transform us from within, we grow in holiness. When we are obedient, we will be blessed. God promises that if we will obey Him, blessings will follow.[read Joshua 1:8:, Isaiah 1:19, John 14:21]

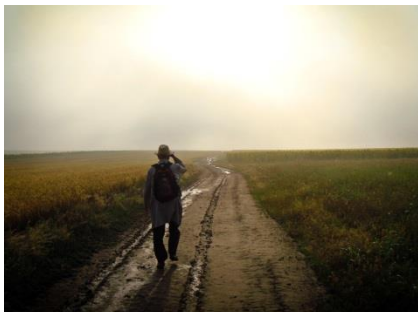
Walking in the Spirit also means to trust God. Trusting God means transferring your confidence and hope from yourself to Him. The Holy Spirit empowers the obedient with great strength and peace in the midst of difficulty. Believers who hear from God make it a practice of their lives to obey His word. Dear brothers and sisters, Trust Leads to Obedience. Only when we trust God will we desire and be able to obey Him. Obedience is closely connected to abiding in Christ, and to the fruit-bearing. *'I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.'* (John 15:5)

When we act on our trust by obeying, we become fruit-bearers, not to bring glory to ourselves but to glorify our Father in heaven (15:8). Let us ask God Almighty, to help us to put our trust in Him, abide in His Son, and walk by the Spirit, so that we can obey Him and bear fruit that lasts.

*'Trust and obey, for there's no other way, To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey'.* Amen!

#### **Prayer**

*Holy Spirit, help me to listen to your voice and teach me to trust your direction. Help me to have confidence in your guidance and direction. I know that nothing is impossible with You. Amen*



## **DAY SEVEN**

### **Walk in the Spirit by Praying in the Spirit daily**

**Text:** Rom. 8:26 *"Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities; for we know not what we should pray for as we ought; but the Spirit itself (Himself) maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered."*

**Introduction:** Brothers and Sisters, Pentecost (the outpouring of the Holy Spirit) is a proof that the believers as participants in matters of Kingdom intension; are we not isolated, but Divine power is present.

From the time of creation, God chose to work in earth through human beings. His will is exhibited in the world by men and women of faith.

We exist in a world full of horrors, treats, and destructive powers. Covid 19 forces all people to see the label: “endangered species” posted on each person. The political landscape robs citizens of place and harmony. There are those who are intent to cause divisions on every possible level of relationships.

Pentecost season assures us: “God is present everywhere at all times.

Prayer warriors are recruited to spread the divine aroma in a decaying world. Gal. 6:9 “Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we shall reap if we do not grow tired.”

Prayer brings revival, healing... changes nations. God shapes the world by prayers of the faithful. Let us not allow Satan to gain a lot of territory. Pray always, pray without ceasing. (1 Thes. 5:17) Through the power of the Holy Spirit we conduct prayer meeting 24hrs a day.

## 1. MEDITATION

Rom. 8:26 “Spirit” recorded in this verse as the key figure, doctrine talks of Trinity. Three persons in one. (i) God the Father... (Creator)

(ii) God the Son... (Redeemer)

(iii) God the Spirit)... (justifies)

Incarnation era..... (we did not witness)

Suffering, death, resurrection and ascension..... (we were not spectators)

Outpouring of the Spirit.....(we were not present in Jerusalem)

Jn 14:16 “And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another helper; that He may abide with you forever. The Holy Spirit of truth ... will guide you into all the truth; and He will tell things to come.

The Holy Spirit ... helps in conditions of weakness, frailty, incapacitation. J.B. Philips’ translation uses the word “limitations”.

“We” ... pronoun ... plural ... indication ... Paul stands for complete identity with all other fellow co-workers.

Intercession ... coming in between; mediation; pleading for and on behalf of the other.

The sense of hearing registers ‘groaning’ ... sighs too deep for words ... deep sound expressing pain ... (maybe one is destitute, vulnerable; to the point of falling short of vocabulary to communicate promptly.

The Holy Spirit helps (facilitates) when we are not sure what to say to our heavenly Father. He brings us revival and healing when we feel spiritually sick.

## 2. THE EVER LABORIOUS PRAYER WORRIOR.

At the moment of ascension; Jesus Christ spoke: “*tarry ye in Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.* (Luke 24:49). The Holy Spirit is God’s personal presence in the here and now.

The Holy Spirit of grace, depicts God’s grace acting in our lives, helping us to accomplish those things we cannot accomplish in our own strength. The Holy Spirit is continuously at work in our lives, in every encounter, in our daily work; in our communities; in our pain, disappointment, grief, struggle and loneliness. Holy Spirit touches us.

Ps. 139:7 “*Where can I go from your Spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? Acts 1:8 “But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit. has come upon you and you shall be witnesses to me...”*

The whole creation groans and labours with birth pangs together until now. “However, when the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all the 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. In Ephesians Paul tells us that the sword of the Spirit is the word of God. *“Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints.”*

Paul describes himself a fellow struggler with us when it comes to prayer. “We do not know how to pray. (Rom. 8:26). He encourages us not to hide our struggles when it comes to prayer. Right at the point of not knowing how to pray or what to pray for ... the Spirit intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. The Spirit helps us along our journey of prayer.

#### CONCLUSION:

It is a blessing to be permeated by the Holy Spirit to me permeated by the Holy Spirit's influence. Holy Spirit is Helper, Strengthener, Comforter, Intercessor, Advocate, Counsellor and Standby. It is impossible to pray with power without the Holy Spirit. He is faithful to bring our needs before God's throne. We need His presence both to survive and succeed.

#### PRAYER:

*King of glory, we praise you for the gift of the Holy Spirit as He helps us in our infirmities; when communication is hindered, when vocabulary turns to be insufficient and less effective. Thank you, Lord, for the Divine Speech therapy that facilitate fluency to rebuke and curse all manner of evil. Take over our vocal organs and our inner nature, hold prayer meetings inside us. Amen*

## DAY EIGHT

**To walk in the Spirit is to walk in the Word.**

*“All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.” 2 Tim. 3: 16, 17*



The Spirit of God is the power which we experience as we live in complete obedience to the will and word of our eternal God. When we read Holy Scripture prayerful and with intense interest and hunger, the Holy Spirit will open our hearts and minds to understand the depths of its message. It is God's will that you and I should grow in our faith and knowledge of the message and support one another in this growth.

Our test in 2 Timothy 3: 16 and 17 wants to assure us that Holy Scripture is the inspired word of God and is of great value for our whole life and all its experiences. The world teaches, guides, helps, and leads us in all righteousness. It truly helps us in all circumstances in which we find ourselves. When we deepen ourselves in the Word, the Holy Spirit is present to enlighten our minds.

In Proverbs 30 verse 5 we read: *“Every word of God proves true; He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him.”* But we are also warned in verse 6 *“Do not add to His words or He will rebuke you, and you will be found a liar.”* God’s Word is supreme; it stands out above all other decrees. No other declaration can claim to be more important than God’s Word.

Isaiah 55: 11 reminds us: *“So shall my word be...it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed...for which I sent it.”*

Walking in the Spirit is synonym to walking in the Word. The two walk side by side and cannot be separated. They belong together. The one is dependent upon the other. God Almighty is in control. When we are sincere in reading His Word, God sends the Spirit to accompany us. And when we are sincere with the Spirit the Word becomes clearer. The Spirit and the Word accompany each other. They become one power driven by God Almighty.

May we pray in all sincerity that God will give us the experience of the guidance of the Holy Spirit during these days and beyond, as we read His Word.

### **Prayer**

*Dear Lord, thank you for the gift of your Word and of the Holy Spirit. Keep us in close union with your Word and Spirit, so that we may be strong in our obedience and in being true disciples. Bless each one of us in the congregation. Help us to be faithful members of your church. Amen*



## **DAY NINE**

### **Walk in the Spirit by Sowing to the Spirit**

Galatians 6:7-10, Also read: 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 , Luke 6:38 2 Corinthians 9:6 Malachi 3:10

*“A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”*

Paul is using a familiar agricultural analogy. A man reaps what he sows. Life is about sowing and reaping. It is about seeds. Bad seed produces bad fruit. Our scripture says when you sow to the flesh, you harvest corruption but when you sow to the spirit, you will harvest “life everlasting”. Paul emphasized that each of us has the power to produce the kind of life that pleases God. That power is the Holy Spirit at work within us. So what does it mean to "sow to the Spirit"?

*‘ Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.’ (6:9) We will be rewarded. We will reap, if we don't give up’.*

Let us not become weary: It means not to lose one's motivation, enthusiasm or being discouraged."

Doing Good: We are called to "do good" to all people, especially to Christians. Goodness is a fruit of the Spirit (5:22). We are to continually find ways to do good to others, since it is the natural outflowing of God's love that has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit

Let us not give up: Means we must not stop, it means to carry on, to continue, to pursue.

We pursue Jesus: We keep on striving to become more like him and longing for the Spirit to form Jesus in us. We do this because every disciple wants to be like his teacher, and our great

teacher is Jesus. As we pursue Jesus, the Holy Spirit is at work transforming us to become like him with ever-increasing glory. We begin to display, by the power of the Spirit, the character and compassion of Jesus.

Praise Him: We can sow to the Spirit by turning and tuning our hearts to God in song with other believers (Ephesians 5:18-19). We give thanks for what God has done for us (Ephesians 5:20).

Dear brothers/sisters: Are you tired? Are you weary? Does your labour in the Lord seem like a waste of time to you? Does it seem like you're getting nowhere? Remember that God will reward you for your faithfulness.

**Conclusion:** We are given the choice of which seed to plant. Seeds of faith and forgiveness, seeds of hope and trust, seeds of love, purity, worship and praise; these are the seeds which will make our fields beautiful – a fragrant offering to the Lord.

Or do we choose to plant the seeds of the flesh, seeds of lies, deception and destruction. Unfortunately, these seeds, if allowed to grow, will rise up to dominate the field and choke everything which draws us closer to God. We must not grow weary of planting that which draws us closer to God. Please read Philippians 4:8 “*whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think of such things*” So , let us sow to the Spirit, let us wisely!

Let's sow seed which glorifies our Heavenly Father and honours Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour; and let's nurture our field with an unending love. Let's sow the seeds of a bountiful harvest which is free of weeds.

### Prayer

*Father, teach us to walk in your Spirit, to be led by your Spirit, to sow to your Spirit. We want to please you, be like you. We believe that we have faith to produce good fruits as Your Spirit works with our spirit to grow them. We are determined to grow these good fruit of the spirit every day with your help, guidance, strength and love. Amen.*



## DAY TEN

**PENTECOST PRAISE AND WORSHIP FELLOWSHIP: [THE LOCAL MINISTER & THE PRAISE AND WORSHIP GROUP/BAND]“... *the***

Psalms 150:1 - 127:6 - Praise ye the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power.

John 4:23 - But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

Psalms 100:2 - Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

Psalms 150:6 - Let everything that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.

Psalms 95:1-6 - O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

Hebrews 13:15 - By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

Psalms 117:1-2 - O praise the LORD, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people.

Psalms 100:4 - Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

Psalms 96:1-9 - O sing unto the LORD a new song: sing unto the LORD, all the earth.

Zephaniah 3:17 - The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.

John 4:24 - God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Ephesians 5:19 - Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;

Psalms 146:1 - 127:2 - Praise ye the LORD. Praise the LORD, O my soul.

**May the gift of God's Spirit fill your hearts, homes and your Family this Pentecost.**

