

## “EMPOWERED BY THE SPIRIT”

**SERMON SCRIPTURE: John 14:15-27**

**WORSHIP SCRIPTURE: Rom. 15:7-13**

Do you believe that a man called Jesus lived around 2000 years ago? (raise hands)  
Do you believe that this man Jesus died on a cross to take punishment for your sin??  
Do you believe that this man Jesus ---- after He died ----was buried---then rose from the grave and is alive again???

Do you believe that the Holy Spirit is as real as Jesus?

Do you believe the Holy Spirit is moving in power today and is speaking to and leading churches and individuals?

Thank you----You may go home ----- **if** you are truly living what you say you believe.

Every time we say, "I believe in the Holy Spirit," we mean that we believe that there is a living God able and willing to enter human personality and change it.

Are you Empowered by this Holy Spirit??? Are you able to do things that are beyond your own strength? Do you seek His will rather than your own?

Do you have strength to live a victorious life??? No you do not have the strength----but the Holy Spirit can Empower you so that you can overcome.

**The world cannot accept Him because it neither sees Him nor knows Him**, yet He is real and active. Without a radio, radio waves go unnoticed. The radio is the receiver for the radio waves that are not seen. The Holy Spirit is unnoticed by the unsaved who have no spiritual life but we are to be the receivers for the Holy Spirit. Do you notice the movement of the Holy Spirit in your life???

Call the Holy Spirit by the term you think best---Advocate, Helper, Paraclete, Comforter----the word conveys the indefinable blessedness of God's presence-----an inward invisible kingdom that causes the saint to sing through every night of sorrow. To look on the bright side---not to give up and see only darkness.

The word in Greek is “Paraclete” which is translated comforter. *Para* in the Greek means “alongside” and the root of *kletos* is “to call” So this helper is one who is called alongside us, just as Jesus was to the disciples----but He is even more ---an encourager---a counselor---a witness----

He is the promised gift of those who have received the Son. While He lives with each Christian personally, He also lives with them corporately. He is the one who gathers and makes us one.

Jesus says that one of the qualifications for receiving the Holy Spirit is to love and obey Him ----- verse 15—16 "If you love me, obey me; and I will ask the Father and He will

give you another Comforter, and He will never leave you. He is the Holy Spirit, the Spirit who leads into all truth.”

The word Comforter or Counselor as applied to the Holy Spirit needs to be translated by some vigorous term. Literally, it means "with strength." Jesus promised his followers that "The Strengthener" would be with them. This promise is no lullaby for the fainthearted. It is a blood transfusion for courageous living.

If----If we are full of pride and conceit and ambition and self-seeking and pleasure and the world, there is no room for the Spirit of God, and I believe many a person is praying to God to fill him when he is full already with something else.

Glass empty-----get air out-----don't suck it out----collapse glass----we can't pout it out--  
--but I can get it out-----by filling it with water and forcing it out.

This works at times with things in our life-----the way we get rid of them is allowing and asking the Holy Spirit to come in and push them out.

Then there are times when what is in the glass will not allow the water to come in-----many times our lives are so full of everything else----there just isn't room for the Holy Spirit.

Did you ever notice in the world we live in today that when a cell phone rings that everyone starts grabbing for their phone-----is it mine-----ears tuned to a cell phone-----  
How are your ears tuned into the Holy Spirit-----do you recognize when He calls----when He knocks----when He speaks.

What are you tuned in????

I am afraid that many times we are more tuned into cell phones than we are the Holy Spirit.

Many times Jesus said “Those who have ears to hear let them hear”.....what are you hearing???? The sounds of this world or of the Holy Spirit???

That's the reason we are afraid to step out in faith-----the reason we won't attempt anything that God must be a part before we can succeed. WE rely on ourselves instead of the power of the Holy Spirit.

Unless you and I have within us this power of God's Holy Spirit, we soon shall yield to the pressures around us. That's the reason we fall into sin----the reason we are not moving in the power of God and doing His miracles-----we don't have time for anything---  
---except for ourselves.

The scripture says the Holy Spirit is our teacher-----which means we are to learn----learning means change----change in how we think----change in how we act---change in our attitude---There is never any excuse in the Christian Faith for the closed mind.

The Christian who feels there is nothing more for them to learn----that no changes need to be made in how they think, act and feel is the person who has no understanding of the Holy Spirit and His ministry.

To be filled with the Holy Spirit is to allow God to change us into something different than we are. Roman 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.”

I believe that in our day the Holy Spirit is moving in special ways to do the work of God’s Kingdom.

Acts 2:17-18 'In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

Our lack of being tuned into the Holy Spirit is the reason we are afraid to step out in faith-----the reason we won’t attempt anything that God must be a part before we can succeed.

Have you asked the Holy Spirit----to come in and empower you----to help you place your priorities in the right place?

Are you full of the Holy Spirit----or full of yourself??? What would Jesus say???