**Intimacy with the Holy Spirit**

**Part 1**

**To begin with...**

* There are many churches today are drawing back from walking with the Holy Spirit.
* Many don’t believe the power of walking with the Holy Spirit is available today.
* If we don’t begin to proclaim this, we may lose it as a generation of people and we’re not going to lose it. Amen!

**God longs for you...**

* James 4:8 says “Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.”
* Now isn’t it interesting?  We’re the one that’s to draw first.
* There is something that we can do, we can initiate that will literally cause the one who place the stars in the universe with His fingers to draw near to us.  And it’s available to everyone.
* Now in that same chapter, just a couple verse late earlier. We read this, in James 4:5, “That the Spirit, who dwells in us, yearns jealousy.”
* To yearn means to long for intensely and consistently.  That means He is yearning for our attention, our fellowship.
* David made this statement in the book of psalms (139:17).  He said, “Lord, how great are your thoughts towards me” (Psa.139:17)
* He further said, “If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand”

**The Holy Spirit...**

* We serve a talking God, a communicating God.
* He is yearning for our fellowship; He is yearning to speak to us.
* 20 mins drive from home to work

**Jesus’ last words before departing...**

* In the book of John, Jesus several times said “I am going away.”
* John chapter 14:15.  We read, “If you love me, keep my commandments.”
* And then He immediately goes to this next statement in v.16, which is not an accident, “And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another helper.”
* Now another is from the Greek word “Allos” which means 'another of the same kind.'  There’s another Greek word, had “heteros” which means 'another of the different kind.' Fruit example.
* Helper is the Greek word “parakletos” which means one who is called to another side for aid.
* John 16:7. Jesus said, “Never the less I tell you the truth.”
* This is amazing!  He is been with this men for three and a half years. Everything He has ever said has to come to pass.
* He speaks to the storm and it stops, He cursed the fig tree and the next day when they walk by. They said 'it’s dried up from the roots.'
* He’s never told them one lie.
* But yet He said, “Nevertheless I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage.”
* Another words, it’s better for you. For if I do not go away. The helper, the “parakletos” will not come to you.
* He said, “It is better for you that I leave.”  Now wait a minute, He’s healed every of their sick. He’s provided for them, He’s told them the things of God.  If you had a question what God was doing, you just go talk to Jesus. Because He’s God manifested in the flesh.
* Why was it better?  Because you see folks, if you wanted to ask Jesus a question.  You had to wait until Thomas has finished.  And then Peter was pretty outspoken, pretty domineer and you had to wait ‘till He was finish.  And then you try to get a word in but James spoke up, “the son of thunder.”

**Jesus’ command on the Holy Spirit...**

* Acts 1:4-5, This is after Jesus is raised from the dead.  This is the day He’s about to ascend to the father.
* Verse 4 we read, and being assembled together with them, He commanded them. “Not to depart from Jerusalem.” To wait for the promise of the Father, which He have said, “you have heard from me. For John truly baptized with water but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”
* What is the promise of the Father? And where was the promise of the Father first spoken? To the children of Israel. And in the book of Joel. “It shall come to pass afterward.” God said, “That I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh.
* All flesh means all nationalities, every race and creed of people.  And He said this, He Said, “Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy and your young men will see visions and your old men will dream dreams.  And upon my men servants and upon my maid servants, I will pour out my Spirit and they will prophesy! (Joel 2:28-29)
* I wanna dwell with people that I’ve created, that I’m in love with. God said why do I wanna build it and dwell in some building? That I wanna have intimacy with.
* And so Jesus said to them, “Don’t go, don’t go anywhere. Because I have paid the awesome price to have God dwelling on the inside of you. So that I can dwell on inside of you.

**On the day of the Pentecost...**

* Jesus minister to thousands and thousands of people and the Bible says in 1 Corinthians 15.  When He was raised from the dead, He spoke to 500 and appeared to 500 brethren.
* And He told all 500 go up to the upper room. But after 10 days it is interesting. There is only 120 left.
* Those 380 didn’t get what 120 got.
* Why is that? Because God gives the Holy Spirit to those who obey Him.
* Acts 5:32, Peter made it very clear.  God gives the Holy Spirit to those who obey Him.
* People will not receive the Holy Spirit if they want to maintain control of their lives.
* That’s why Jesus said over and over and over.  “The only way you can follow me is to deny yourself, take up your cross and follow me.” That’s it when you lose control.
* The problem is today, we have too many people in the church wanting to maintain control of their mental facilities, emotional facilities and they want to run things the way they want to run it not the way God’s wants to run it.

**Key to experience power of Holy Spirit...obey Him and fear Him**

* You will never experience the power of the Holy Spirit flowing in and through your life unless you allow yourself to let go of control.
* This is why so many people are not filled with the Spirit of God.  Because they still want to maintain control.
* That 120 were doing exactly what Jesus said. They had the attitude, we’re going to the upper room and if we’ve rot we’re not leaving. If He has to raise our bones we’re not leaving. They were obedient.
* Acts chapter 10 also shows that God will give His Spirit to those who fear Him.
* The people that feared Him are the people that say, whatever you what I want, whatever you love I love, whatever you hate I hate.
* Where are the other 380?  Where are the other thousands that He minister to? There’s a 120 because they were obedient, they’re one accord, and they’re dead to themselves, they’re given up control.

**Holy Spirit comes down...**

* Acts 2. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as a rushing mighty wind and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues sets of fire. And one set upon each one of them and they were all filled.
* They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with tongues. The church was born that day.
* Because when they speak in another tongue, these cause the multitudes to hear the wonderful works of God.

**Peter’s message...**

* Peter says in verse 32, this Jesus God has raised up of which we are all witnesses.  Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God and having received from the Father the promise.
* Are you equating the Holy Spirit with the promise of the Father? Remember Jesus said, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem until what?  “You received the promise for the Father.”
* So Peter says, look this in verse 33. Therefore being exalted in the right hand of God and having received from the Father the promise. Say the promise of the Holy Spirit.
* Now let’s read this, “He poured out this which you now see and hear!”
* “see!” and “hear.” Say it again, “see!” and “hear.”
* So with the promise is evidence! Are you seeing this?
* You know the devil always does things perverted, did you know that?  He always perverts things.
* Whenever you see the Spirit of God coming on somebody in the New Testament, He comes with the noise!  There is evidence, you can see and hear.
* But when He leaves, He leaves quietly.  Samson knew not that the Spirit of God had departed with him.
* He got up to do what he’s always do and did it again. And he couldn’t do it because he didn’t know the Spirit of God left. Because the Spirit of God always leaves quietly.
* But when the devil comes in, he comes in quietly but when he leaves, he leaves with a noise.  Totally different!

**The Promised Holy Spirit in what you see and hear…**

* So Peter says, this is the promise that you see and hear.  Everybody say see and hear. Say it again, see and hear! How did they hear? They heard them speaking in tongues, they heard them prophesying.  Are you getting this?
* So Peter goes on to say, look at verse 38.  Then Peter said to them, “Repent and let everyone of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and you” watch this, “And you shall receive the gift, the promise of the Holy Spirit.”
* Look at verse 39.  For the promise, everybody say the promise.  Now look up with me. What is the promise? What they saw and heard, for the promise is to you and to your children and to all who are far off as many as the Lord our God will call. (Acts 2:39)

**A question...**

* Are you a person that is a far off as many as the Lord our God are called?
* If you’re born again and you’ve been baptized in the name of Jesus, you’ve given your life to Him
* Are you one of those that are many as far off the Lord God called?
* And then, is the promise of the Holy Spirit is for you?
* What comes with the promise? What you see and hear!