

Letters on the Word

You Have the Holy Spirit; How Much of You Does the Holy Spirit Have?

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1 - The Holy Spirit and the Believer Today

The role of the Holy Spirit in a believer's life today is like the role of Jesus in a disciple's life 2000 years ago. The Holy Spirit is holy. Jesus is the greatest example on earth of a holy life or character. He was wholly devoted to God and God's will in His life. What Jesus did by dying on the cross for us and sending us the Holy Spirit was to ensure that we are guaranteed a way to be released from our un-holiness and to be holy like God -- that is if we accept His plan for salvation and eternal life (also referred to as being born again or being born of the Spirit [see John 3:16]).

2 - How Much of You Does the Holy Spirit Have?

When we become born again or born of the Spirit, and the Holy Spirit comes to live in us -- we have Him totally. However, the question is how much of us does He have? I have often asked in the past how the Holy Spirit can be living in every believer and yet we seem have different levels of victorious Christian living? I felt recently that the Holy Spirit answered this question by saying: "Every believer has Me completely; but how much of every believer do I have?" God is love (1 John 4: 18) and Love does not insist on its own way (1 Cor 13: 5). That is how the Holy Spirit can be in every believer but the outward fruit of the Holy Spirit can be quite different from believer to believer. At some point in our walk with the Holy Spirit, we must each ask ourselves: "How much of me does the Holy Spirit have?"

3 Do Not Quench the Holy Spirit (XXXX)

Our ability to quench the Holy Spirit (XXXX) is evidence of this characteristic of love never to insist on its own way. For some reason, it is important to God our Father to preserve our free will. This is why the Holy Spirit can be in us and yet be in a state of "quenched-ness" -- if there is such a word. Because He will not insist on His own way. And if He doesn't have much of us, then really He can be in us but remain ineffectual in a believer's life because of the believer's choices. The extent to which the Holy Spirit is effectual in my or your life is the extent to which I or you have yielded to Him -- i.e., the extent to which the Holy Spirit has me or you.

4 - True Sonship is Walking By the Leading of the Holy Spirit

When we are born again or born of the Holy Spirit, we are babes in the Kingdom of God, and have to begin our walk to grow into full maturity where we become like His firstborn Son Jesus Christ. As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the Sons of God (XXXX). The Holy Spirit is the agent for this growth: He is our teacher, our counselor, our ... (XXXX). He can speak to us directly just as He can speak to us through others. How can we discern and know His voice? There is no way around spending time with Him, cultivating a relationship with Him, talking with Him, listening to Him, getting to know Him ... walking with Him.

5 - Aligning Your Will with the Will of the Father

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments, and I and my Father will come and live in you." (XXXX). The ultimate of a believer's walk with the Lord is the place where the will of the believer has aligned with the Lord's will -- and that comes about by following the leading of the Holy Spirit. There is no difference between the will of the Father, the will of the Son and the will of the Holy Spirit. (XXXX) If we are the Body of Jesus Christ on earth today, then there should be no difference between the will of God our Father and our wills. As we grow in our walk with the Holy Spirit and yield to His leading more and more, our wills (by choice) will be exchanged for the will of the Father, and we will become one with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This is true sonship.

6 - I Yield to You, Holy Spirit

More than ever today, we will grow in our understanding of who the Holy Spirit is in us, and more importantly we will yield more of ourselves to the Holy Spirit so that He becomes the dominant influence in our lives. I pray for a growing revelation of the Holy Spirit in me. I pray for a growing yielded-ness to Him so that as He has more and more of me, His fruit is evident in my life and my life reflects a victorious walk with the Lord. Thank you Father God for this beautiful revelation that the Holy Spirit is in me to make me like Jesus Christ, but will never insist on His way. For the Holy Spirit to have me, I must yield to Him on a day-to-day and moment-to-moment basis -- by grace. The ball is in my court.