

## Sunday Service Sermons

**25 July 2021**

A Renewed Spirit

Could you use a renewed spirit?

Most of us could but today we are thinking about a renewing spirit that would and can help us be all that we can be . . . For God.

Nice slogan: Be all you can be.

I like it, but being all we can be has little to do with the military.

And everything to do with The Lord God Almighty.

He who creates knows the creation the best, right?

God created us and He knows what we need much better than we do.

*Romans 12:2* states: "Be transformed by the renewing of your mind."

*Titus 3:5* states: "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost."

Each week I do my best to get you to give yourself to God completely and see what he has in mind for you so that your life might be complete and joy filled.

Is it working?

Are you walking closer to God today than when I came?

I sure am!

Whether all these Sundays have helped you or not they sure have helped me.

Hear this line if you hear anything this morning.

The key to renewal is not our plans, our programs, our techniques, rather, it is the person of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit both regenerates and renews the believer.

We speak of Jesus and what he brought, and offers today, but it is the Holy Spirit that is his greatest gift to those who come to God after him.

I go that He may come.

Once there were missionaries who camped near a monkey colony.

After several days the missionaries left for a time and when they returned they observed the monkeys doing things as the missionaries had done, even making a pile of wood and sitting around it as if they were warming themselves.

But they lacked the fire to make the heat.

The church can be like that, we can have firewood but no fire.

The fire is the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of renewal.

We must not allow the Holy Spirit be the displaced member of the Godhead in our church or in our lives.

The Holy Spirit must be active in our church and in our lives.

There are two basic terms used in the New Testament to describe the ministry of the Spirit to believers.

First is: the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit enters the life of a person when they are born again.

The death, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ provide the means of salvation; the Holy Spirit effects it.

He convicts us of our need for salvation.

He regenerates us in salvation.

He takes up residence within us at conversion.

He seals us to the day of redemption and he is our assurance of salvation.

After the indwelling comes the infilling of the Holy spirit.

This is the term that refers to the control of the Spirit.

*Ephesians 5:18* says, "Be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit."

It is not a picture of an empty vessel being filled with wine.

It means that every part of a person's body is affected, how he or she walks, talks, thinks and sees.

It is the idea of control.

When the Holy Spirit is in control, something happens in our lives.

He delivers us from the defeat of self.

He cultivates Christ-like qualities.

He teaches us.

He leads us.

He assures us.

He strengthens us.

He empowers us for witnessing.

There are five things to remember as to how our lives are brought under the Holy Spirit's control.

Decision: We decide to live a Spirit-filled life.

It is an act of our will.

A positive response means that we have the Holy Spirit living inside of us; even more importantly, we allow the Holy Spirit to have us!

Daily: Being filled is not a one time event.

It is a not spiritual vaccination.

Instead, it is a continual experience.

*Ephesians 5:18* contains a present tense verb, "be filled".

Being filled with the Spirit is a daily experience.

Devotional: The spirit-filled life is nurtured by our devotional life.

They go hand in hand.

We need time with God's Word and time for prayer if we want to be the spiritual people Christ would have us to be.

Doubtless: The Spirit-filled life is a life of faith.

We are saved by faith, we live by faith, we walk by faith, and we are filled with the Holy Spirit by faith, not by feelings, but by faith.

Let us be done with doubting!

Let us trust God's Word for this relationship.

Discovery: The Spirit-filled life is one of the daily discoveries of God's riches.

*Romans 6:13* is the pattern for discovery. "Yield yourselves unto God . . . And your members as instruments of righteousness unto God."

This means self, every part of our being.

When we continually submit ourselves to God's will, the discovery of the Holy Spirit's ministry is real!

Lawrence of Arabia went to London following his exciting military life and took with him a number of Arab chieftains.

It was their first trip outside the desert, and they were awed with the city.

They were most impressed with the water faucets in the hotel rooms, they came from a barren desert land to a place where simply by turning a handle at any time water would rush freely.

After they left, the hotel management made an unusual discovery.

The water faucets had been removed!

The Arabs had taken them.

They thought they could take the faucets back, turn the handle, and water would pour out.

How impossible!

The faucets were not connected to the water supply!

And it is just as impossible for us as Christians to produce power and Christ-like qualities apart from being controlled by the Holy Spirit.

Yield and receive.

More than you can imagine!