

# Holy Spirit, the Power to Change

LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

In the book of 1 Corinthians, Paul emphasizes the role of the HOLY SPIRIT, whom God has given us so we may freely know that things that are of God (2:12). The Holy Spirit is not a ghost or force — He is the Third Person of the Trinity. God exists as one God in three persons: the Father, the Son (Jesus Christ), and the Holy Spirit. Each Person of the Trinity is fully God, distinct yet united. The Holy Spirit shares the same divine nature and attributes with the Father and the Son (Matthew 28:19). He actively works in the lives of believers, guiding, empowering, and glorifying Jesus Christ (John 14:16-17; John 16:13-14). Moreover, the Holy Spirit's deep care and love for us are evident when He is grieved by our sin (Ephesians 4:30). Understanding the Holy Spirit's true nature as God helps us truly appreciate His presence and power to transform our lives.

Paul explains that there are three kinds of people:

- 1. The Natural Man:** These individuals lack the Holy Spirit and navigate life solely based on circumstances. They are spiritually blind and dead, lacking God's spirit within them. It's crucial that we pray for them, asking God to open their eyes, grant them forgiveness of sins, and be sanctified through faith in Christ Jesus (Acts 26:18).
- 2. The Spirit-Filled Christian:** This person allows the Holy Spirit to take control of their life, empowering them with spiritual understanding. They possess the ability to appraise and discern spiritual matters, making decisions that align with God's desires. Paul emphasized that the tremendous benefit of being Spirit-filled is having "the mind of Christ": the ability to view life from God's perspective and grasp divine truth. Romans 8:9 reminds us that genuine Christians must have the Spirit of God dwelling within. Therefore, it's essential to examine ourselves to determine whether we truly have the Spirit of Christ. Mere religious rituals won't suffice; instead, we must be filled with the Spirit, aligning our lives with God's Word, understanding His teachings, and faithfully obeying His commands.

- 3. The Carnal Christian:** Paul raises the issue of "carnal Christians" in 1 Corinthians 3:1-3. These individuals have accepted Christ into their lives, but they still struggle with their selfish desires, trying to be in control. Consequently, they lack spiritual power and joy, leading to a sense of inadequacy. Paul beautifully expresses this struggle in Romans 7:19,24 — highlighting the inner conflict and the feeling of being wretched. How can we allow the Holy Spirit to take control? We must surrender our minds and thoughts, as well as our emotions and actions (TEA Principle). It is crucial to guard our minds, ensuring our thoughts always align with biblical teachings.

## Indwelt by the Spirit vs Filled by the Spirit

Being INDWELT by the Holy Spirit happens when someone becomes a Christian and puts their trust in Jesus for salvation. It means that the Spirit of God comes to live in them permanently, identifying them as belonging to Christ (Hebrews 13:5; Romans 8:6). It's a gift from God, given through His grace and received by faith (Galatians 3:14; Acts 2:38). However, being indwelt by the Spirit doesn't automatically mean that Christ has full control over their life. On the other hand, being FILLED with the Spirit is an ongoing and moment-by-moment experience that happens when we willingly surrender to God's will (Ephesians 5:18). This continuous surrender allows the Holy Spirit to empower and transform our character (Galatians 5:16, 22; Acts 1:8). Paul urges us to walk by the Spirit, which involves trusting and obeying God's commands and experiencing the Spirit's guidance and empowerment in every aspect of our lives (Galatians 5:16-17).

Living a Spirit-filled life allows us to bear fruit and make a positive impact, shining God's love and truth to those around us. As Revelation 22:12-13 reminds us, Christ will return with His rewards. As we eagerly await His coming, let's ask ourselves: Which type of person are we? Let's strive to be Spirit-filled, staying empowered by the Holy Spirit, and wholeheartedly serving our Savior, Jesus Christ.

## last week's memory verse

But he who is spiritual appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no one. For who has known the mind of the Lord, that he will instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ.

1 CORINTHIANS 2:15-16

## discuss this message

In your honest assessment, are you a natural, spiritual, or carnal Christian? How different will your daily life be if you are always filled by the Holy Spirit? What is the difference between rewards and salvation as a free gift? What can you do to have eternal rewards?

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**God is truly faithful!**

Visit us at the Welcome Center and let's talk about His faithfulness!

INVITE YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

## learn more ABOUT THE FAITH

Continue to be equipped in your discipleship journey.

### Join GLC's new training cycle!

**GLC Level 1 Face-to-Face and Zoom Classes starts September 3**

Book 1: *One by One*

Book 2: *Spiritual Disciplines*

### Join a GLC class

**GLC Level 2 — Face to Face Cycle 1**

Book 6: Basic Doctrines, Session 2  
August 13, Sunday, 1:00 PM, Room 3A

**GLC Level 2 — Zoom Cycle 1**

Book 6: Basic Doctrines, Session 2  
August 13, Thursday, 7:30 PM

**GLC Level 3 Lead — Zoom Cycle 1**

Module 4: Spiritual Warfare  
August 17, Thursday, 7:30 PM

### The Holy Spirit Class

GLC Level 1 - Book 3, Session 1

#### FACE TO FACE

August 20, Sunday, 1:00 PM, Room 2A

#### ZOOM CYCLE

August 23, Wednesday 7:30 PM

Go to [bit.ly/GLCTraining2023](https://bit.ly/GLCTraining2023) to register

## JOIN AND participate

Come together with the community to learn and grow, or to retreat and recharge!

### MOVE YDC 2023 Grounded: Discipleship in a Woke Culture

FACE TO FACE CONFERENCE

October 30 - November 1

REGULAR RATES:

PHP1,200 for regular tickets

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LOOKING FOR ANSWERS? THINK YOUR VISIT IS A COINCIDENCE? YOUR BEING HERE TODAY IS NO ACCIDENT!

**God brought you here for His purpose.**

### 1 God loves you.

He desires for you to have a meaningful life with Him in the present and gain eternal life with Him in the future.

*Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who **keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness** to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments — Deuteronomy 7:9*

### 2 God is holy.

We are sinful, and our sin separates us from Him.

*Everyone has sinned and is far away from God's saving presence. — Romans 3:23*

### 3 God is merciful.

In His love, He made the only way for us to be reconciled to Him: through His son, Jesus Christ. Jesus had to die on the cross for our sins and be raised to life for eternity.

*But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. — Romans 5:8*

*I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. — John 14:6*

### 4 God is gracious.

By placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven of our sins and saved from eternal death.

*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. — John 3:16*

*For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. — Ephesians 2:8-9*

### 5 God keeps His promises.

You can be sure that you have eternal life when you trust in Jesus.

*And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. — 1 John 5:11-13*

## STEP INTO THE community

Fellowship and learn together with people like you!

### WOMEN2WOMEN ALL WOMEN

**Hey, Bro. Joe!**

**How-To: Yield Your "Rights" to God's**

with Dawn Urquico

August 17, Thursday, 10:00 AM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

 ccfwomen2women

 CCFWomen2WomenMinistry

### NXTGEN

KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD

### United

**A NXTGEN Series on 1 Corinthians**

Sundays, 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM

G/F North Wing

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TOXIC CULTURE?  
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SERVICES AT THE CCF CENTER

**SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE AT THE MPH**

5:00 PM

**SUNDAY SERVICES AT THE MAIN AUDITORIUM**

10:00 AM (English), 3:00 PM (Filipino)

**ONLINE LIVESTREAMS**

10:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM

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