

The Holy Spirit and Spiritual Confidence

You exist in the physical world
You are alive, your life is in the spiritual world

- **John 6:63 (NIV) Jesus tells us,**

⁶³ The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.

- **John 18:36 (NIV)**

³⁶ Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place."

Three Theological Points

- **The Holy Spirit is a Person.** He is not an indistinct “power” or “thing”.
The Spirit is not an “it” that we can control or use.
In **John 14:17** (NIV), we read that the Spirit
“¹⁷ ... lives with you and will be in you.” This calls us to be in a relationship with the Spirit, instead of allowing us to think we can treat the Spirit as a power to be harnessed in order to accomplish our own purposes.
- **The Holy Spirit is God.** He is not a lesser or different kind of Being than God the Father or God the Son. The words **Spirit** and **God** are used interchangeably in the New Testament.
- **The Holy Spirit indwells you.** He is always with you.
1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (NIV) ¹⁹ Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own;
²⁰ you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body

We Are Spiritually Confident When We Are Filled With the Spirit

- To be filled with more of the Holy Spirit is to say you voluntarily surrender more of your life and will to the Spirit. That implies increasing humility, faith and trust in the Spirit, obedience

Was Jesus Spirit filled? Absolutely!

- **Luke 4:1-2** Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.
- **John 7:14-17** The Jews there were amazed and asked, “How did this man get such learning without having been taught?” Jesus answered, “My teaching is not my own. It comes from the one who sent me. Anyone who chooses to do the will of God will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own.”

Reminders of Why We Have the Holy Spirit

- John 14:17 He is the Spirit of Truth
- John 14:26 He teaches us all things and reminds us of everything Jesus taught
- John 16:8 He convicts the world of guilt in regards to sin and righteousness and to judgment
- John 16:15 He takes what is from Jesus and makes it known to us
- Romans 8:6 The mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace
- Romans 8:13 With the Spirit you are able to put to death the misdeeds of the body
- Romans 8:26 The Spirit helps us in our weakness

How Do We Become Spirit Filled?

- **Listening and Meditating on the Word
on a daily basis**

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ
dwell among you richly ...

- **Through Prayer, alone and with others**

We Are Spiritually Confident When We Have A Heart Strong In The Grace of God

- “*You then my son be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus*” – **2 Timothy 2:1**
- “*Therefore, since through God’s mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart*”- **2 Cor 4:1**

We Are Spiritually Confident When We Obey in Spite of Fear and Doubt

- Mark 16: 14-20 *Later Jesus appeared to the Eleven as they were eating; he rebuked them for their lack of faith and their stubborn refusal to believe those who had seen him after he had risen. He said to them, “Go...”*
- Jesus knew that these men doubted. They were afraid. Even Paul was insecure at times.
...Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it.

We Are Spiritually Confident When We Obey in Spite of Fear and Doubt

- Why did they obey? Because they were commanded? Yes, BUT...
- They obeyed because they knew it was a SPIRITual battle. They obeyed because they were grateful for forgiveness, for grace and mercy and love.
They obeyed because they were trusting and faithful in their Lord.
His Word, His Spirit was in their hearts.

How do we grow in our spiritual confidence?

- 1: When We Choose to Seek, to Pursue a more intimate, trusting, loving relationship with God
- 2: When We Are Filled With The Spirit. It leads to a walk, a relationship with God you can feel.
- 3: When We Have A Heart Strong in, and Motivated by, the Grace of God
- 4: When We Obey and Trust the Lord In Spite of Fear and Doubt
- **From wherever you are now, seek to increase & deepen your relationship with your Father in heaven and his Son through the Holy Spirit that indwells you!**