



Assurance in the Spirit

C3 Bible Study

September 23, 2012

Based on the Sunday theme, your C3 group will delve deeper in study and discussion of the key scriptures.

10 Minute
Fellowship

5 Minute
Announcements

10 Minute
Outreach

15 Minutes
Care & Pray

35 Minutes
Bible study

September 23, 2012

The Spirit and the Word: that has been our theme the last couple of weeks. As we take another look at this crucial combination, we learn that the Holy Spirit lives within us using the Word of God to create confident assurance in God's Promises!

Let's start with a quick review of the past two weeks---*read and discuss* the connection of the Spirit and the Word in these verses:

2 Peter 1:20-21

John 6:63

John 16:13

John 14:26, 15:26

Ephesians 5:18

One of the truths of Scripture is that the Holy Spirit actually lives within you! Have you thought about the significance of that? Have you considered the implications of that for daily living? Take a look at these verses:

1 Corinthians 3:16-17, and 6:19.

In both of those verses, the word “temple” refers to the “Holy of Holies” -- that special, sacred place where God dwells. God lives in you...specifically in these verses, **God the Holy Spirit** is mentioned! This is not symbolic language, but a spiritual mystery that God reveals to us in His Word! *God lives within you!*

This happens in your life when you are baptized in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (See **Titus 3:5-6** for the Baptism connection). The Holy Spirit is with you everyday of your life, working to nurture, strengthen and mature your faith.

The Bible talks about the Holy Spirit living and working within you many times, using a variety of images. Look up these verses and discuss the images (remembering that they are all describing the same thing in different ways):

Acts 9:17, 13:9, 13:52; Eph 5:18

Acts 11:24

Acts 1:8

1 Corinthians 12:13, Acts 11:16

Romans 8:14 Galatians 5:18

Galatians 5:16

John 4:23-24, Philipians 3:3

Ephesians 1:13

Titus 3:5

2 Corinthians 13:14 Philipians 2:1

Romans 8:4-5

Romans 8:6,9

Romans 15:16; 2 Thess 2:13; 1 Peter 1:2

Acts 10:45, Romans 5:5

Today our specific focus is on **God the Holy Spirit** living within you like a “temple” (1 Cor 6:19). But also remember that the Bible describes all three Persons of the Holy Trinity as living within you. Note these examples: 1 John 4:12 for **God the Father**; and Galatians 2:20 for **God the Son**.

One important thing that the Holy Spirit does is to create **assurance** within you. Look at **Romans 8:16**.

How do you define assurance?

Can you tell of a time when assurance of faith has helped you?

On a scale of 1 to 10, how “assured” are you that you belong to God, and all of His promises apply to you?

Assurance comes as the Holy Spirit works through the Word of God so that you hear and believe the promises of God apply to you. *That is why you need frequent and regular contact with the Word of God!* Assurance brings with it a confidence, conviction, and motivation as you live as a disciple of Jesus. It is a turning point in your sanctification as you learn to realize how significant the Christian faith is; how serious salvation and forgiveness are; how important the Word of God is in your life, and the urgency of reaching the lost with the Gospel.

Here is a quick sample of the impact of assurance in the Bible:

2 Timothy 1:12 Ephesians 3:12 (Heb 4:16) 1 Thessalonians 1:5

Close your C³ time today thanking the Lord for the gift of the Holy Spirit who lives within you, His “Holy of Holies”, and ask Him to strengthen your assurance and deepen your conviction of the Words and Promises of God!