

June 17, 2018 **The Holy Spirit: Revealer of God's Mysteries**
1Corinthians 2:6-16

Last week in our sermon series on the Holy Spirit & His function in every believer we looked at perhaps the most misunderstood concept concerning the Spirit...***His filling!*** Eph 5 helped us understand that to ***“be being filled with the Spirit whenever it’s now”*** isn’t about quantity: we receive the Holy Spirit in His entirety at salvation. ***Be being filled*** means continually being permeated by Him, letting Him control our minds, mouths & hands to think, speak & act on God’s will together with Him.

Today, we’ll look at what might be the most misquoted scripture about the Spirit in 1Corinthians 2. Grab your bibles and let’s get going!

READ: 1Corinthians 2:6-16 (NLT)

6) Paul alludes to 2 different sources & types of wisdom:

- Wisdom based in truth from God that is eternal
- False wisdom from the world that simply passes away
- You & I are being educated @ the difference daily

7) Paul speaks God’s wisdom @ the mystery of the gospel

- The gospel was previously hidden but is now revealed
- OT foreshadowed God’s gospel; Jesus manifested it

9) Often misquoted, especially at funerals! It is treated as true

10) But these things ***have been revealed*** to us...by the Spirit!

- Spirit knows the deep secrets of God b/c He is God
- The Spirit reveals secrets/mysteries in various ways!
 - inner knowledge, church, bible & others

11-12) Humans can’t know each other’s thoughts; never God’s!

- But God’s Spirit knows His thoughts; He is in us to tell
 - Knowing & doing God’s will on earth = vital
- The Spirit reveals & applies all truths about the Gospel so that we may walk in the freedom of His grace

ILLUS: John 8:32 – Jesus says to disciples: ***“you shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free!”***

13) All spiritual truths properly explained have One Source!

- Scripture can be spoken by anyone - *not understood!*

14) How does a person become spiritual (*spiritually alive*)?

- God is searching for those who worship in Spirit/truth
- You must be born again (*from above or of the Spirit*)

15-16) Believers can evaluate all things b/c of the Spirit in us

- But we are a mystery to Unbelievers = *spiritually dead*
- Unbelievers don’t know God; but believers have His Holy Spirit influencing our heart/mind: *Christ’s mind!*

Conclusion: Every Believer has become a vessel in whom God’s Spirit dwells – *His presence is the proof of our salvation.* Every Believer has the mind of Christ – *the ability to know & think Christ’s thoughts.* God’s Spirit in every believer is who reveals God’s will and ways, and provides the power to live Christ’s life on earth!

But...are we? Are we living a normal human life, or the glorified life of Christ that the Holy Spirit empowers? Do we know things by God’s revelation that we could not know any other way? Are we letting the Holy Spirit permeate our thoughts, words and deeds, giving Him the right to operate us?

ILLUS: little girl asks mom, “Isn’t God bigger than us?”
“Then shouldn’t others be able to see Him?”

INVITATION TO RESPOND PERSONALLY:

- 1) *Do you have the Holy Spirit in you? (Are you saved?)*
- 2) *Are you asking the Spirit to advise you about life?*
- 3) *Do you expect the Spirit to give you spiritual wisdom in every circumstance?*

WORSHIP IN MEDITATION: Matthew 16:13-17 (NIV)

Jesus Christ's identity & mission is revealed by God:

13) When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, *“Who do people say the Son of Man is?”* **14)** They replied, *“Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”* **15)** *“But what about you?”* he asked. *“Who do you say I am?”* **16)** Simon Peter answered, *“You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”* **17)** Jesus replied, *“Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. 18) And I tell you that you are Peter (Petros), and on this rock (petra) I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”*

Jesus plays on 2 Gk words that have similar sounds & meanings: Peter is *Petros* in Gk which means “little rock”, like the kind a man might throw. The rock upon which Jesus would build His kingdom, however, is *petra*, “a mass of connected rock,” the bedrock truth of Christ's identity as God's Messiah AND Son!

Jesus calls Simon Peter *blessed* because the truth he spoke was revealed to him by the Father. But there's no indication that Peter knew that he had received a “word” from the God of the Universe until Jesus told him. In just the same way, you & I have had similar experiences when we spoke a word of truth that we didn't know we'd received from God Himself... *we may even have taken credit for our right response!* But this is to be the normal experience for every Christian BECAUSE the Spirit of God dwells in us to reveal God's truth to/thru us. All truth belongs to God, and He is the only Source of truth. So, when you & I speak truth, we are speaking what Spirit reveals!

Sermon in a Sentence:

The Holy Spirit: Revealer of God's Mysteries

1Corinthians 2:6-16 (NLT)

6) Yet when I am among mature believers, I do speak with words of wisdom, but not the kind of wisdom that belongs to this world or to the rulers of this world, who are soon forgotten. **7)** No, the wisdom we speak of is the mystery of God—his plan that was previously hidden, even though he made it for our ultimate glory before the world began. **8)** But the rulers of this world have not understood it; if they had, they would not have crucified our glorious Lord. **9)** That is what the Scriptures mean when they say,

“No eye has seen, no ear has heard,
and no mind has imagined
what God has prepared
for those who love him.”

10) But it was to us that God revealed these things by his Spirit. For his Spirit searches out everything and shows us God's deep secrets. **11)** No one can know a person's thoughts except that person's own spirit, and no one can know God's thoughts except God's own Spirit. **12)** And we have received God's Spirit (not the world's spirit), so we can know the wonderful things God has freely given us.

13) When we tell you these things, we do not use words that come from human wisdom. Instead, we speak words given to us by the Spirit, using the Spirit's words to explain spiritual truths. **14)** But people who aren't spiritual can't receive these truths from God's Spirit. It all sounds foolish to them and they can't understand it, for only those who are spiritual can understand what the Spirit means. **15)** Those who are spiritual can evaluate all things, but they themselves cannot be evaluated by others. **16)** For,

“Who can know the LORD's thoughts?
Who knows enough to teach him?”

But we understand these things, for we have the mind of Christ.