

WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

I grew up in California. When I first accepted Christ, the realm of the spirit was an absolute mystery to me.

Back in the sixties and seventies it seemed like the only domestics come at the mystics come out the prophets and the really weird people seem to move in the spirit realm.

The rest of us just went to church, read our bibles and lived pretty normal lives.

I always incorrectly thought that in the colony of believers, I must have been some sort of a worker bee, because the people who heard from God always told us what God was saying and I was one of the ones that was supposed to try to accomplish it with my best effort.

I read in romans chapter 8,
that the mind set on the flesh or the senses is death and the mind set on the spirit is life and peace.

John 6.63

Jesus said, His words are spirit and they are life.

And

In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul said that the natural mind cannot even comprehend the things of the spirit.

Back then, it almost seemed that this was some sort of a concept that was only reserved for a special few.

But then in John 10.10, Jesus said my sheep hear my voice and no other will they follow.

I knew that I was a sheep and it made me very hungry to understand more about walking in the Spirit.

I read some books and listened to some very intelligent people teach on the subject. But honestly the biggest impression that I got from all of it was, wow, those guys are so smart. I thought that if I was even half that smart maybe I could walk in the Spirit too.

But that was a very long time ago. I've learned over the years that when God wants to teach us something about Himself, he doesn't hand us a pamphlet or a textbook and say, hey you, study this. He has the Holy Spirit reveal to us what God wants to be to us and in us, right in the middle of our very own life experience.

When I was young, in church they liked to preach out of Ezekiel 37. It was Ezekiel's vision about prophesying to the dry bones and raising up a great army.

I grew up near the marine base in San Diego and because my dad was retired military we had based privileges. My brother and I spent a lot of time on the base shopping, going to movies, and playing basketball.

I also saw a lot of the training and drilling that was required to make skilled soldiers out of goofy 18 year old kids.

My concept of an army was that everybody was highly skilled and trained. The general gave orders to the colonel, who gave orders to the captain, all the way down to the sergeant's, corporals, and privates. Everybody knew what to do to perform their jobs skillfully. When they spoke about the army of God, that's what I pictured.

Let me share the revelation that God showed me.

About 20 years ago, I'd been asking the Holy Spirit to teach me about walking in the spirit. He spoke to me that He would show me what it meant. I was really excited.

That night my wife was not at home. She had gone to a meeting somewhere. My daughter, who was 4 years old at the time, and I were at home. I asked my daughter, Amy would you like some ice cream? She excitedly said yes! So, I said let's go to the store and get some. She ran out to my car. My car had those door handles that you had to lift up to open the door. She was so short she couldn't push the handles up far enough to get the door to open. So, I opened the door for her, put her in her car seat, strapped her in, and we headed off to the store.

When we got to the store, I put her in the shopping basket, pushed her back to where the ice cream was, I let her pick out the color that she wanted, I paid for it, and drove back home. When we got home, I put her in her high chair, put on her bib and served up the ice cream. When she finished, I cleaned her up, put on her pajamas and put her to bed.

Then I grabbed my Bible, my notepad and my pen, and said, Holy Spirit I'm ready for you to teach me now. He said, I just taught it to you. I said what do you mean, I don't understand?

He said, look at your daughter. She's only 4 years old. She couldn't even open the door by herself. She couldn't get into her car seat or strap herself in. She couldn't drive the car and she couldn't find the store even if she could drive the car. She has no money to pay for the ice cream. She couldn't get back home, serve herself the ice cream, clean herself up, put on her pajamas or even get herself to bed. She's just a little four-year-old kid. I said OK, I get that, but I thought you were going to teach me about walking in the spirit?

He said that's what I'm teaching you. He explained. All of that happened, because she was with you. All she had to do was say, yes daddy, and hold your hand. You made it all happen for her, because she's your daughter and you love her.

He went on and said, that everything you receive in the Kingdom comes by inheritance because God is your father.

Jesus said that, My Kingdom is not of this world. He also said, unless you become converted and become like little children, you cannot enter the Kingdom.

God loves His children and has promised by covenant, to be everything they need, and to accomplish everything He wants to accomplish in them and through their lives.

Let's repent and humble ourselves and let Daddy be everything that He is, in us and through us to the rest of the world.

God bless you.
Jim Fuller