

to remain hidden, so that nothing diverts our gaze from the Lord Jesus.

Whenever we focus our attention on Christ, the Holy Spirit is in close partnership with us. The Spirit is pleased when we are glorifying the Lord.

We can do this by:

- Remembering what Christ did for us by observing the Lord's Supper (1 Corinthians 11:23-26).
- Making Jesus our example (John 13:15; Philippians 2:5-11; 1 Peter 2:21-24).
- Longing to know Christ better, so that we may be more like Him (Philippians 3:10-14).
- Not being afraid of dying because we're looking forward to being with Christ (2 Corinthians 5:8; Philippians 1:21-23; 2 Timothy 4:6-8).
- Living in awareness of the day we will appear at "the judgment seat of Christ" (2 Corinthians 5:10).
- Being comforted by the fact that Christ is our intercessor in heaven (Hebrews 4:14-16).
- Purifying ourselves from sin as we're living in the light of Christ's return (1 John 3:2,3).
- Looking forward to Christ's rule over the earth (Isaiah 2:1-4; Jeremiah 23:5,6; Revelation 20:1-4).
- Rejoicing in the assurance that every mortal being in God's universe will bow before Jesus Christ and confess Him as Lord (Philippians 2:9-11).

The Holy Spirit keeps Himself out of the limelight so that Christ may be honoured. He is pleased when we praise and adore the Lord Jesus. He views us as partners with Him in glorifying Christ. Being Christ-centred, therefore, is an essential in being filled with the Spirit.

*(Philippians 3:10)*

*"that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,"*



# Central Mountains Baptist Church

## APRIL 22, 2018

### Christ Centred/Spirit Filled

The first essential for being Spirit-filled is to centre our lives on Jesus Christ. He must be the focal point of our thoughts and aspirations. In all we do, we must be conscious of following His example and doing His will. When we are Christ-centred, we are pleasing the Holy Spirit because that's what He wants us to do. In fact, Jesus said, "He [the Holy Spirit] will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you" (John 16:14). In a good marriage, the wife or husband enjoys seeing the other receive honour. Similarly, the Holy Spirit derives great pleasure from seeing us cooperate with Him in glorifying Christ. He Himself wants



# Insights for Living Passion for Christ



Philippians 3:10 describes four levels of intimacy in our journey toward full passion for Christ:

## 1. \_\_\_\_\_, verses 7-9, 10a

**(John 14:21)** "... he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him."

**(John 5:39)** "'You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.'

**(2 Corinthians 3:18)** "But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."

**(John 13:23)** "Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved."

**(Ephesians 3:16-19)** "that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, {17} that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, {18} may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height; {19} to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."



## 2. All \_\_\_\_\_ removed, verse 10b

**(2 Corinthians 5:17)** "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

**(1 Corinthians 15:51-55)** "Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed; {52} in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. {53} For this .. mortal must put on immortality. {54} So when this .. mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." {55} "O Death, where is your sting? O

Hades, where is your victory?'"

**(Galatians 5:22-23)** "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, {23} gentleness, self-control..."

**(Ephesians 1:17-21)** "that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom .. in the knowledge of Him, {18} the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, ..., {19} and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power {20} which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, {21} far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come."

**(Galatians 5:17)** "For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish."

**(1 Corinthians 9:27)** "But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified."

**(2 Peter 1:5-7)** "But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, {6} to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, {7} to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love."

**(James 4:7-8)** "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. {8} Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. ..."



Resurrection

## 3. \_\_\_\_\_ fellowship, verses 10c, 1:29-30

**(Acts 5:41)** "So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name."

**(Acts 16:25)** "But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them."

**(Matthew 5:10-12)** "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. {11} "Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. {12} "Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

**(2 Corinthians 12:10)** "Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

**(Acts 7:55-56)** "But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, {56} and said, "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!""



## 4. Ultimate \_\_\_\_\_, verses 10d, 2:5-8

**(Luke 9:23-24)** "... If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.

**[24]** "For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it."



Hudson Taylor