

JESUS, CONTINUED ...

LESSON 2: THE GOSPEL OF GOD'S PRESENCE

**Ephesians 3: 14-19** - *“For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.”*

*Think of a time when you sensed God's presence. What is it like?*

*How did you know it was God's presence you sensed?*

JD points out 2 problems relating to people experiencing the Holy Spirit:

1 - God sometimes seems distant or absent.

2 - We don't know exactly what the presence of God is like, which is why we don't know if we are experiencing it.

**“God has always wanted to be \_\_\_\_\_ with His people.”**

- Gen. 3:8; Ex. 13:21; Ex. 25:8-9; John 14:16-18
- Jehovah Shammah: “The Lord who is there”
- Immanuel: “God with us”

**“The Holy Spirit is \_\_\_\_\_ in us.”**

- As we grow deeper in the gospel we become more alive in the Spirit
- What is the gospel? *The royal announcement that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, lived a perfect life in our place, died on the cross as a substitute for our sins, was buried, rose again to launch God's new creation, and is now exalted as the King of the world.*
- Luke 3:21-22; Gal. 3:1-3; John 15:4-11; Gal 5:22-23

**“\_\_\_\_\_ can only be lived in the presence of God.”**

- Gal. 5:16; Rom. 8:11

What is the Holy Spirit's primary objective?

His primary objective is to glorify Christ and empower His people to complete God's mission!

Every time the Holy Spirit fills people in Luke and Acts, they proclaim the Word of God to others.

For Example:

- When the Spirit fills John the Baptist, he proclaims the coming of the Lord **(Luke 1:15-17)**
- When the Spirit fills Zechariah, he prophesies about the coming glory of Jesus **(Luke 1:27)**
- When the Spirit fills the disciples at Pentecost, they declare the gospel in multiple languages **(Acts 2:4)**
- When the Spirit fills Peter, he preaches to the rulers that Jesus is their only hope of salvation **(Acts 4:8)**
- When the Spirit fills the disciples, they speak the Word of God boldly in the face of persecution **(Acts 4:31)**
- When the Spirit fills Paul, he immediately begins to preach in the synagogues **(Acts 9:17-20)**

BEFORE NEXT SESSION:

Read: Psalm 50:12-15; Acts 17:24-25; Luke 24:49; Matthew 16:18; Matthew 11:28-30; 1 Peter 4:10-11; Col. 1:27