

## How can we live?

In our last lesson we saw some very significant things that happened to us at the moment of our salvation but those events and consequences of trusting in Christ do not really tell you how to practically live out the Christian life. Today we are going to look at the continuing ministry of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

**There are four critical principles that will enable us to live out the Christian life on a daily basis.**

**The first critical principle that will enable us to live out the Christian life on a daily basis is that God wants a personal and dynamic relationship with us.**

**God wants us to have an abundant life.**

“<sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.” John 10:10 (NIV)

**God has planned an abundant life for us to live out.**

“<sup>10</sup>For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

**God has given us power like the power he used to raise Christ from the dead to enable us to live out the Christian life.**

“<sup>18</sup>I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, <sup>19</sup>and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, <sup>20</sup>which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup>And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.” Ephesians 1:18–23 (NIV)

**The second critical principle that will enable us to live out the Christian life on a daily basis is that the Holy Spirit is the power in our lives that will enable us to live out the Christian life.**

**The Holy Spirit is God.**

<sup>17</sup> Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup> And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. 2 Corinthians 3:17–18 (NIV)

**The Holy Spirit has responsibilities in our lives.**

**The first responsibility of the Holy Spirit in our lives is to lead us into truth and to glorify Christ.**

“<sup>13</sup> But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. <sup>14</sup> He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you.” John 16:13–14 (NIV)

**The second responsibility of the Holy Spirit is to convict us of sin.**

“<sup>8</sup> When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment.” John 16:8 (NIV)

**The third responsibility of the Holy Spirit is to product fruit in our lives.**

“<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.” Galatians 5:22–23 (NIV)

**The third critical principle that will enable us to live out the Christian life on a daily basis is that we have to cooperate with the Holy Spirit in his work in our lives.**

**We have to actively cooperate with the Holy Spirit's work in our lives for him to be able to work in our lives.**

“<sup>4</sup> Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.” John 15:4–5 (NIV)

**We have to continuously yield our lives for the Holy Spirit to be able to work in our lives.**

“<sup>1</sup> Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual

act of worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.” Romans 12:1–2 (NIV)

**We have to allow the Holy Spirit to control our lives in order to be able to work in our lives.**

“<sup>18</sup> Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.” Ephesians 5:18 (NIV)

**The fourth critical principle that will enable us to live out the Christian life on a daily basis is that we need to continuously evaluate where we are at spiritually.**

**We need to evaluate which of three types of people we are.**

**Are you a natural person who has not placed their trust in Jesus Christ to pay for their sins.**

“<sup>14</sup> The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.” 1 Corinthians 2:14 (NIV)

**Are you a carnal person who has placed their trust in Jesus Christ to pay for their sins but who is not allowing the Holy Spirit to control their life.**

“<sup>1</sup> Brothers, I could not address you as spiritual but as worldly—mere infants in Christ. <sup>2</sup> I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready.” 1 Corinthians 3:1–2 (NIV)

**Are you a spiritual person who has placed their trust in Jesus Christ to pay for their sins and who is allowing the Holy Spirit to control their life.**

“<sup>15</sup> The spiritual man makes judgments about all things, but he himself is not subject to any man's judgment:” 1 Corinthians 2:15 (NIV)

**There are two things you must do constantly to allow the Holy Spirit to control you and to empower you to live the life God created for you.**

**Confess your sins.**

“<sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9 (NIV)

**Give up control of your life to the Holy Spirit.**

“<sup>1</sup> Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.” Romans 12:1–2 (NIV)

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