

Introduction:

- Review:
 - The Holy Spirit as Joy
 - The Holy Spirit as Encourager
 - The Holy Spirit as Teacher
- Tonight: The Holy Spirit As Friend and Companion

I. Face To Face

- A. In scripture, the words—*presence* and *face*, often come from the same Hebrew word. It can mean to shine as well. The face reveals the countenance.
1. Moses spoke face to face with God.
 2. Moses at times had to veil his face because he had been in the presence of God, therefore his face shown with the glory of heaven.
- B. Seeing the face has to do with trust. The face is also a sign of the presence of God.
1. *“Inside the Tent of Meeting, the Lord would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend...”* (Exodus 33:11, NLT) Friends speak face to face because there is level of trust.
 - a) Ie. My first trip inside the former Soviet Union was not long after the walls had come down. One of the things I remember about the Russian people is that they would hardly ever look you in the face. Especially on the streets...because they had learned to trust no one. **But**, when you look at each other face to face you are demonstrating trust. The deeper the trust the longer the look face to face.
 - b) IE. When I leave to go on trips I like looking at my wife’s face. I want that imprint in my thoughts. God spoke to Moses face to face because He wanted Moses to always live with the presence imprinted in his life.
- C. Critical for development. They say that the mother’s face, the father’s face are critical for the development of babies. We make faces to a young baby. We make crazy sounds and talk weirdly to a baby to get their attention. And, when the baby sees a friendly face it smiles and coos. See the face is critical for development and relationship. The shining face of the Perfect Father looking at you!
1. God spoke face to face with Moses, it was critical for his development and for their relationship.
 2. He wanted this kind of relationship with Israel.
 3. It is not by mistake that Israel camped around the Presence of God by day and by night.
- D. God wants us to know Him face to face. The Holy Spirit was sent to live in us that we might know Him, (know God) in such a personal way.
1. The Holy Spirit is not an it. He is a person.
 2. The Holy Spirit is not a force or a power, though He is powerful. He is a person,
 3. The Holy Spirit is not just a doctrine that fills our head. He is a person—sent by God, that we might know Him and that He might work through us.
 4. The Holy Spirit is not oil, water or wind, though all those words have been used to talk about what He is like. He is a person...with feelings.

II. Jesus Models Holy Spirit Life

- A. Jesus was God, but we have to remember He was man. Part of His mission is to demonstrate or model the picture of a man filled with the Holy Spirit.
 - 1. Jn 1:30-ff. Jesus is baptized and receives Holy Spirit.
 - 2. Immediately He is being led by the Spirit...into the wilderness.
 - 3. Returns in the power of the Spirit.
 - 4. All to demonstrate how spiritual battles are won with the help of the Holy Spirit.
- B. Jesus cooperated with Holy Spirit.
 - 1. God wants us to cooperate with the Holy Spirit. God does not want us reacting to darkness but responding to it. When you react to darkness it controls you and what you do. But when you are led by the Spirit you respond to the Father and darkness is dispersed.
 - 2. Things happen when we do. Ie. Peter's shadow. It wasn't the shadow that did the work. It was the Spirit of God in Peter that did the work. Paul's aprons and handkerchiefs. It was not the handkerchiefs it was the presence.
 - 3. Holy Spirit turns typical days into events. Peter and John going to temple to pray and they see the beggar they have seen so many times before....
 - 4. When we cooperate with Holy Spirit every step we take is with the Holy Spirit.
 - 5. This is why it is important to host his presence and learn to do what He is doing.
- C. When we cooperate with Holy Spirit, he touches other peoples lives.
 - 1. IE. Gen 8:8-ff. Noah and the dove.
 - 2. Noah sent the dove out to look for a place to land.
 - 3. God the Holy Spirit is always looking for a place to land.

III. God's Spirit in Us

- A. *"And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart. And I will put my Spirit in you so that you will follow my decrees and be careful to obey my regulations."* (Ezekiel 36:26-27, NLT)
- B. Ezek 37 - Dry bones
 - 1. Restorer - bones that were scattered are gathered and assemble. God is good about getting all the pieces put back together.
 - 2. Warrior - what is gathered, put together and restored is made into an army.
 - a) Armies exist to demonstrate strength, take territory, and create security.
 - b) This is what church is called to do.
 - 3. *"But if I am casting out demons by the Spirit of God, then the Kingdom of God has arrived among you."* (Matthew 12:28, NLT)

Conclusion:

- You need the Holy Spirit
- He is a gift from the Father for you
- Face to face