



Rhythm  
OF

# WORSHIP

A W O R S H I P L E A D E R ' S

*Weekly Devotional*

Monday Nov. 11 - Sunday Nov. 17, 2019

# Necessity of the Holy Spirit

## Theme for Sunday

## Reflections

*“And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove.”*

**Luke**  
3:21-38

*The same Spirit that dwelt in Jesus is the same Spirit that dwells in us. So much so, that the phrase “in Christ” shows up over 70 times in the New Testament, after the Holy Spirit was given to the apostles. J.I. Packer has this to say on the topic, “Communion between God and man is the end to which both creation and redemption are the means; it is the goal to which both theology and preaching must ever point; it is the essence of true religion; it is, indeed, the definition of Christianity.”*

*And Rankin Wilbourne says this, “The greatest treasure of the gospel, greater than any other benefit the gospel brings, is the gift of God himself. Is it any wonder, then, that twentieth-century writer John Murray concluded, “Nothing is more central or more basic than union with Christ...it is the central truth of the whole doctrine of salvation.””*

\* What do I need to repent of this week?

\* What feels too heavy to carry this week?

\* How does the following statement make me feel? “It is no longer I, but Christ who lives in me.”

\* Is it true for me? Would others affirm this?

\* Does the Spirit feel alive and near in my life? Or does He feel distant?

\* What holds me back from embracing the reality of God’s very Spirit living within me?



# Prayer

## GOD THE SPIRIT

I pray not so much for graces as for the Spirit himself,  
because I feel his absence,  
and act by my own spirit in everything.

Give me not weak desires but the power of his presence,  
for this is the surest way to have all his graces,  
and when I have the seal I have the impression also;

He can heal, help, quicken, humble suddenly and easily,  
can work grace and life effectually,  
and being eternal he can give grace eternally.

Save me from great hindrances,  
from being content with a little measure of the Spirit,  
from thinking thou wilt not give me more.

When I feel my lack of him, light up life and faith,  
for when I lose thee I am either in the dark and cannot see thee,  
or Satan and my natural abilities content me with a little light,  
so that I seek no further for the Spirit of life.

Teach me then what to do.

Should I merely humble myself and not stir up my heart?  
Should I meditate and use all means to bring him near,  
not being contented by one means,  
but trust him to give me a blessing by the use of all,  
depending only upon, and waiting always for, thy light, by use of means?

Is it a duty or an error to pray and look for the fullness of the Spirit in me?

Am I mistaken in feeling I am empty of the Spirit because I do not sense his presence  
within, when all the time I am most empty and could be more full by faith in Christ?

Was the fullness of the Spirit in the apostles chiefly a power,  
giving the subsistence outside themselves in Christ, in whom was their life and joy?

Teach me to find and know fullness of the Spirit only in Jesus.

taken from "The Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers and Devotions"

# SONGS AND ART

## 1. RAISE A HALLELUJAH

"I'm gonna sing in the middle of the storm"

## 2. ANOTHER IN THE FIRE

"I count the joy in every battle"

## 3. ABIDE

"with my heart abandoned"

## 4. BEAUTY FROM THE ASHES

"Oh You saved us from the hungry grave"

## 5. GOD WITH US

"We are standing in Your glory"

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