



BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT



WHAT DOES JESUS PROMISE TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN HIM?

- On the last and greatest day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.” By this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believe in Him would receive. For the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. John 7:37-39
 - That those who believe would receive the Holy Spirit.
 - That the Holy Spirit would be like a river of living water flowing from the believer’s life.
 - What type of thoughts and images do the words “rivers of living water” prompt in your minds?



“AS THE SCRIPTURE HAS SAID”

- He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.” John 7:38
- Compare Jeremiah 17:7,8,13b “⁷ Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, and whose trust is the Lord. ⁸ For he will be like a tree planted by the water that extends its roots by a stream, and does not fear when the heat comes; but its leaves will be green, and it will not be anxious in a year of drought, nor cease to yield fruit. ... ^{13b} Those who turn away ... have forsaken the fountain of living water, that is the Lord.”

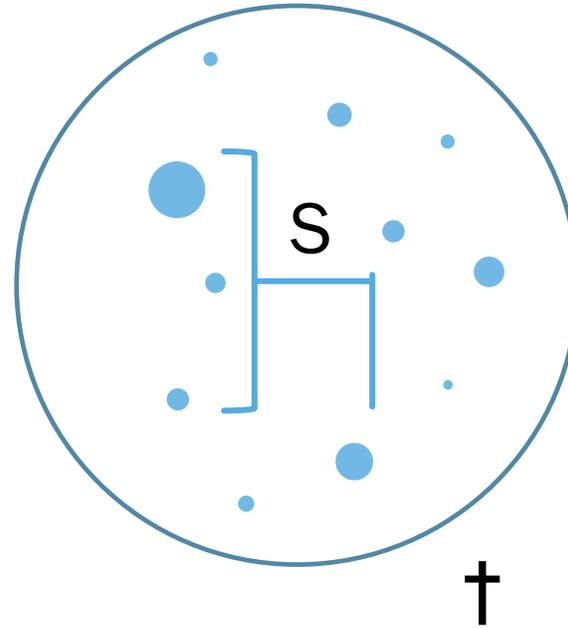
WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE THINGS HE DOES?

- The Spirit is a divine person, “another counselor” who takes Jesus’ place when he returns to the Father. John 14:16 “I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Counselor, that He may be with you forever.”
- He teaches John 14:26 The Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you.
- He bears witness to Jesus. John 15:26 the Spirit of truth ... will bear witness of Me.
- He convicts of sin. John 16:8 When He comes, He will convict the world of sin and of righteousness and of judgment:
- He guides. John 16:13 But when the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth.

ALL BELIEVERS IN CHRIST HAVE RECEIVED THE HOLY SPIRIT, BUT THEY ARE NOT ALL FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT. 1 COR 2:14-3:3

- “¹⁴But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually judged/discerned.”
- What characterizes the natural person?

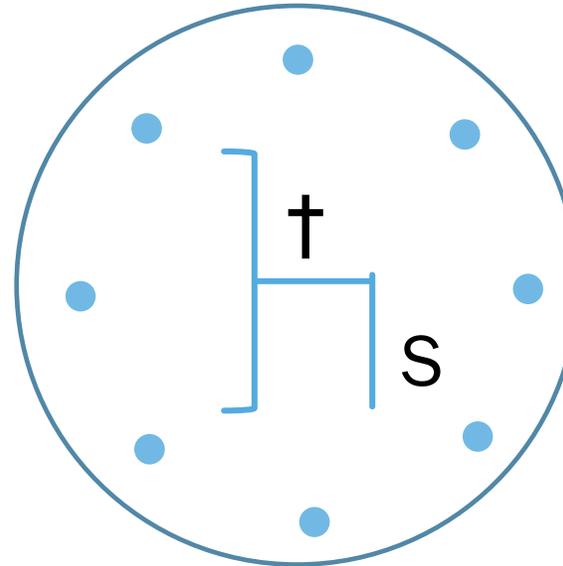


Natural Person

- S - The “self” is directing the life.
- † - Christ is outside the life.
- - Interests are directed by self often resulting in discord and frustration.

ALL BELIEVERS IN CHRIST HAVE RECEIVED THE HOLY SPIRIT, BUT THEY ARE NOT ALL FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT. 1 COR 2:14-3:3

- ¹⁵But he who is spiritual judges/discerns all things. Yet he himself is not judged/discerned by anyone. ¹⁶For “who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?” But we have the mind of Christ.
- What characterizes the spiritual person?

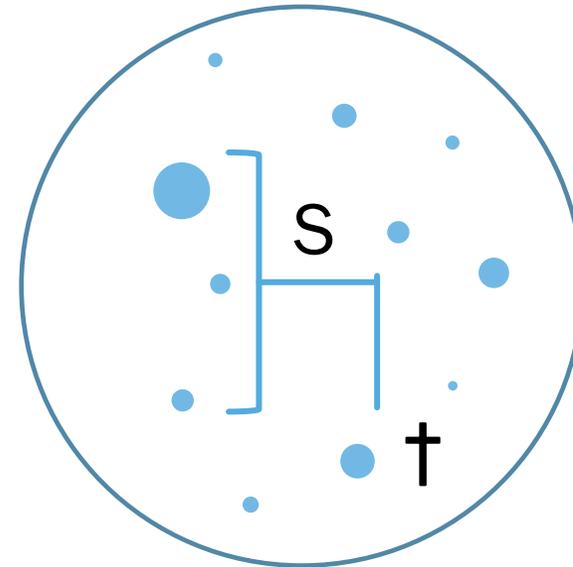


Spiritual Person

- † - Christ is in the life, leading and directing the person
- S - The “self” is yielding to and trusting in Christ.
- - Interests are directed by Christ resulting in harmony with God’s will.

ALL BELIEVERS IN CHRIST HAVE RECEIVED THE HOLY SPIRIT, BUT THEY ARE NOT ALL FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT. 1 COR 2:14-3:3

- ¹Brothers, I could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to **worldly**, even as to babes in Christ. ²I have fed you with milk and not with solid food. For to this day you were not able to endure it. Nor are you able now, ³for you are still worldly. Since there is envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not **worldly** and behaving as mere men?
- How do we know this person is a believer?
- What characterizes the wordly believer?



Worldly Believer

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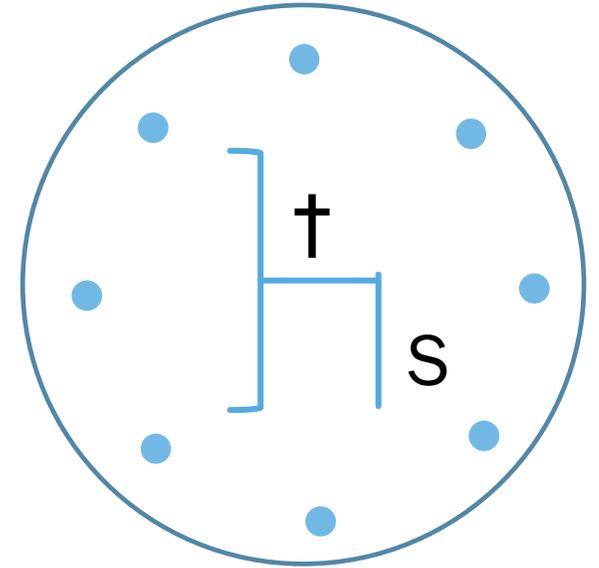
THE SPIRITUAL PERSON – A CLOSER LOOK

John 10:10b “I have come that they may have life and have it to the full.”

John 15:5 “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”

Gal 5:22 “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.”

Acts 1:8a “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses ...”



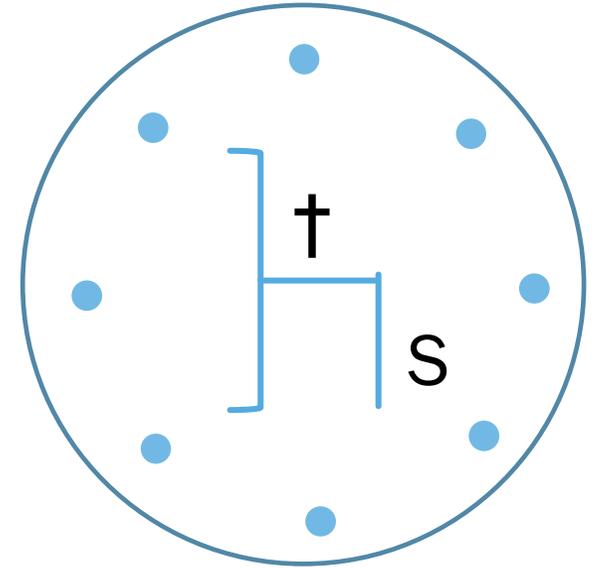
ACCORDING TO THESE VERSES WHAT CHARACTERIZES THE SPIRITUAL PERSON?

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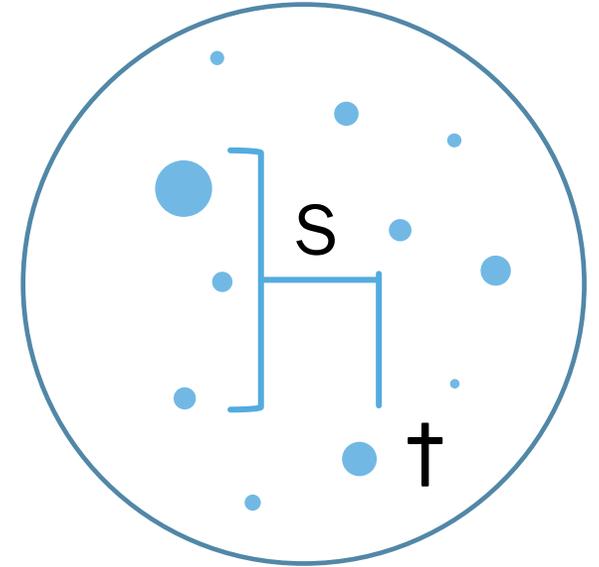
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THE WORLDLY BELIEVER – A CLOSER LOOK

WHAT CHARACTERIZES THE WORLDLY BELIEVER?

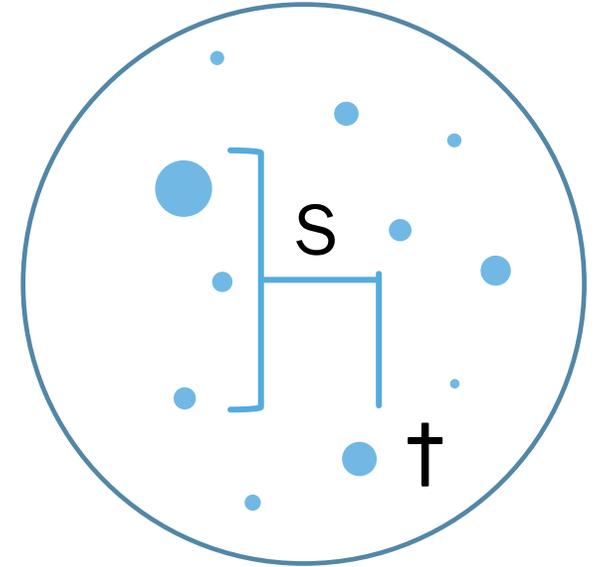
- 2 Peter 1:5-9 ⁵For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; ⁶and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; ⁷and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. ⁸For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins.



THE WORLDLY BELIEVER – A CLOSER LOOK

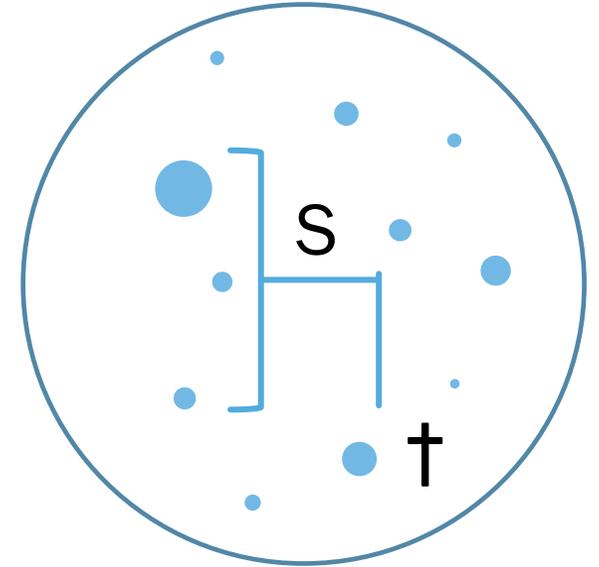
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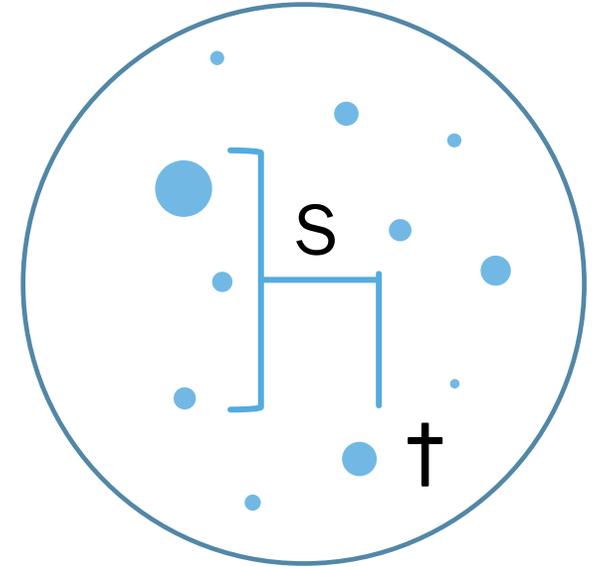
WHAT ELSE CHARACTERIZES THE WORLDLY BELIEVER?

- Romans 7:14-15 ¹⁴ We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. ¹⁵ I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do.
- Galatians 2:20-21 “^{20b} The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹ I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!”

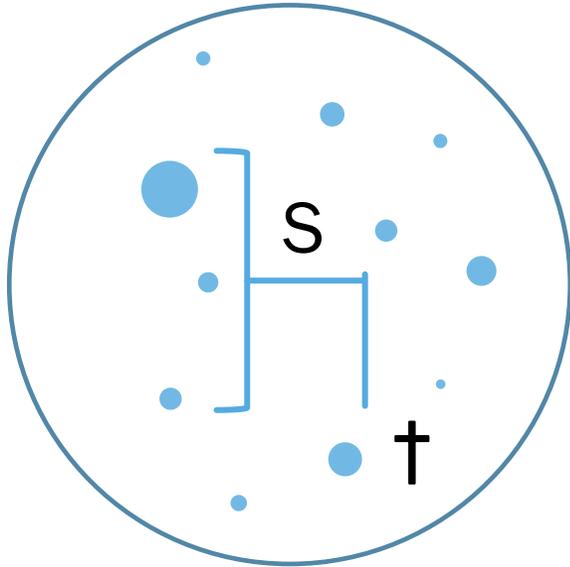


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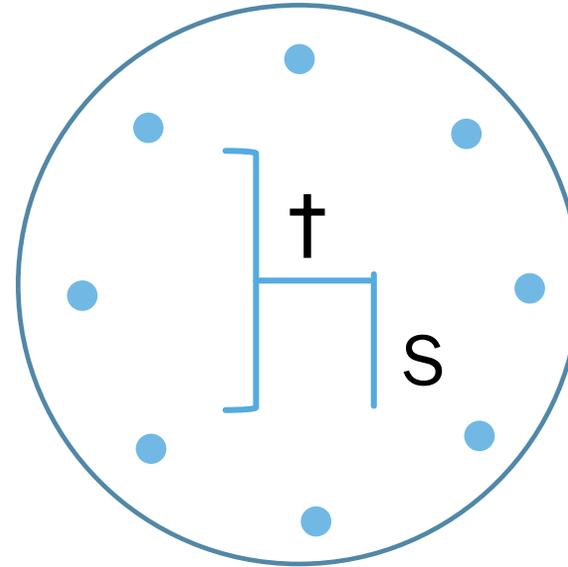
WHO IS DIRECTING YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW? DO YOU WANT JESUS TO BE DIRECTING YOUR LIFE?



Worldly Believer

S - The "self" is directing the life.

† - Christ is inside the life but not directing.



Spiritual Person

† - Christ is in the life, leading and directing.

S - The "self" is yielding to and trusting in Christ..



WE ARE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT BY FAITH. WE CAN BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT NOW IF ...

- we sincerely desire to be filled. John 7:37-39 “If anyone is thirsty ...
Are you thirsty to have Christ fill you with His Spirit?
- there is no unconfessed sin in our lives. 1 John 1:8-9 “⁸ If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”
Have you confessed all known sins in your life?
- You present every area of your life to Christ’s control. Rom 12:1 “Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God — this is your true and proper worship.
Have you presented every area of your life to God?



BY FAITH CLAIM THE FULNESS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- GOD'S COMMAND - Ephesians 5:17b-18 "... understand what the Lord's will is. ¹⁸ Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit."
 - Is it God's will that you be filled with the Spirit?
 - How do you know?
- GOD'S PROMISE - 1 John 5:14,15 "¹⁴ This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him."
 - If we ask God to fill us with his Spirit, what can we know we have according to this promise?

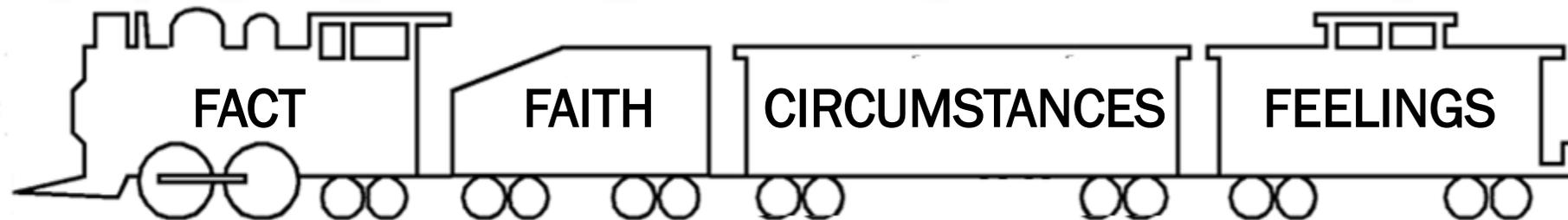


PRAYER

- Dear Father, I admit that I have been directing my own life rather than trusting you to live your life through me. As a result I have sinned against you. I thank you that you have forgiven my sins and have cleansed me through Christ's death for me. I yield all areas of my life to you. I invite you to fill me with your Holy Spirit. Take control of my life and direct me. I now thank you for filling me with your Spirit and for giving me all the resources I need to obey you. I know you have answered this prayer, because it is in accordance with your will.
- Does this prayer express the desire of your heart?

HOW DO WE KNOW WE ARE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT?

- Do not depend on circumstances (even the miraculous gifts of the Spirit) nor on feelings. The promise of God's word, not our feelings, not our circumstances, not our experiences, is our certainty. The follower of Christ lives by faith (trust) in the trustworthiness of God and his Word. As 2 Corinthians 5:7 teaches us, "We live by faith, not by sight."
- The train will run with or without the passenger car and caboose.





SPIRITUAL BREATHING

- If you retake control of your life through sin, an act of disobedience, including a failure to trust God for something in your life, breathe spiritually.
- **Exhale** – confess your sin, agree with God about that sin, which includes repenting, agreeing with God about your need to be changed, and agreeing with God that your sin is already covered and forgiven through Christ’s death on the cross for you.
- **Inhale** – surrender anew the control of your life to Christ, receiving the fullness of the Spirit by faith, trusting that he once again directs and empowers you according to his command in Eph 5:18 and his promise in 1 John 5,14,15 and that you can now obey him in his strength, no matter how you feel.



WHAT ABOUT MIRACULOUS MANIFESTATIONS OF THE SPIRIT?

- 1 Cor 13:1-2 “¹ If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not love, I have become as sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. ² If I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not love, I am nothing.” It is possible to exercise the gifts and lack love, hence lacking the fullness of the Spirit.
- 1 Cor 1:4-7 “⁴ I thank my God always on your behalf for the grace of God which has been given to you through Jesus Christ. ⁵ By Him you are enriched in everything, in all speech and in all knowledge, ⁶ even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you, ⁷ so that you are not lacking in any gift while waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

CREDITS

- Title Slide dove picture: <https://stock.adobe.com/ca/search?k=holy%20spirit%20dove>
- Scripture references are from the Modern English Version
- Slides 3-9 the circle diagrams, Have You Made the Wonderful Discovery of the Spirit-Filled Life?, Dr. Bill Bright,
- Slide 12 the prayer, ibid
- Slide 13 the train diagram (with an added circumstances car), ibid
- Slide 14 Spiritual Breathing, ibid
- For further reading from the C.S. Lewis Institute, June 05, 2022:
[FINDING POWER TO LIVE A NEW LIFE: DISCIPLESHIP AND THE HOLY SPIRIT](#)
Includes: Who or What Is the Holy Spirit? What Is the Work of the Holy Spirit? What Is the Holy Spirit's Work in Discipleship? How Do We Experience This Life in the Spirit? Seek to Be Filled with the Holy Spirit. Walk in the Spirit.