

Sunday, August 13, 2023
The Holy Spirit “In Me” Series
The Family of God

Last Week: Our Relationship with God the Father

**“Jesus taught us how to spend time with God
And the things we should talk about”**

Matthew 6:6:5-6; 7-13

- Affirming God for everything we know about Him;
- Talking to Him about His vision for a healed creation and our desire to work with Him in establishing it;
- Acknowledging our need to prioritize His work as more important than worldly gain... what we need vs. what we want;
- Being honest about how we have failed to be good children and need forgiveness;
- Talking to God about how our struggles with temptation and our need for His help.

The Spirit Teaches Us What Jesus Taught

1. Jesus taught that the Holy Spirit restores God’s “likeness” and “image” in a person through a Spirit caused birthing of God event (John 3:2-8; Matthew 18:1-5; Genesis 1:26-27) and then nurtures children of God with “truth” taught by Jesus (John 14:16-17,26; 15:26; 16:7-15) so there is spiritual growth.
2. Jesus taught the primary obstacles to the Spirit’s Work in Us:
 - 1) The devil interferes with the ability to learn, 2) Temptation interferes with healthy choices, 3) Worry, riches and pleasure dominate thinking.
 - 4) The nature of our heart determines receptivity to the Holy Spirit’s teaching. (Matthew 13:3-23; Mark 4:1-20; Luke 8:4-15)
3. Jesus taught that Spirit-informed decision making requires minimizing the influence of our appetites, feelings and emotions.
(Mat. 26:41; Mark 14:38; 16:24-25; Luke 9:23; John 6:63)

The Spirit in Us Teaches Us Specific Life Priorities

4. Jesus taught us to prioritize our relationship with God as our Father. He taught us to spend time alone with God and gave us an outline of the things we need to prioritize talking about. (Matthew 6:5-6; 6:7-13).

Jesus’ Prioritization of the Family of God

1. **Jesus taught that people “born of the Spirit” are brethren united under one Father and one Leader.**

Matthew 18:20 A Spirit connection wherever they gather.

Matthew 23:8-12 A prioritization of humble surrender and servanthood.

These teachings define leadership roles in the family of God.

2. **Jesus taught that the He and “our spirit united brethren” are more important that our earthly family.**

Matthew 12:46-50; Mark 3:31-35; Luke 8:19-21

Matthew 10:37

Matthew 19:29

These teachings define an otherworldly type of family.

3. **Jesus taught that God’s value of the family of God meant we should love children of God as much as He did.**

John 13:34-35

John 15:12-17

This specific teaching informs Jesus’ purpose in life!

Our Prioritization of the Family of God

- **Jesus’ teaching about the value of the family of God informed everything He did in this life.**

We will not sacrificially love and serve what we do not value!

- **Loving and serving the family of God requires diminishing ourselves to build up others more than serving self.** 😊

We do not go to church only to receive!

- **Understanding the foundation for loving and serving the family of God will help us appreciate the teachings of Jesus about how to love and serve.**

*Teaching about Jesus! Forgiving! Helping!
Judging! Confronting to Build rather than tear down!
Encouraging! Etc.*