FIRST STEPS

NOT ALONE

What part does the Holy Spirit play in all of this?

Probably the biggest surprise that awaits you in your journey through the rest of your life is that you don't have to walk it alone. As mentioned earlier, when you accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior the Bible says that your very heart became the "temple of the Holy Spirit." This means, quite simply that the Holy Spirit lives in you. In short, this is the indwelling Christ, and He will speak to your heart as you go through the highs and lows of this life.

Acts 2:1-5 says:

WHEN THE DAY OF PENTECOST CAME, THEY WERE ALL TOGETHER IN ONE PLACE. SUDDENLY A SOUND LIKE THE BLOWING OF A VIOLENT WIND CAME FROM HEAVEN AND FILLED THE WHOLE HOUSE WHERE THEY WERE SITTING. THEY SAW WHAT SEEMED TO BE TONGUES OF FIRE... ...THAT SEPARATED AND CAME TO REST ON EACH OF THEM. ALL OF THEM WERE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND BEGAN TO SPEAK IN OTHER TONGUES AS THE SPIRIT ENABLED THEM. NOW THERE WERE STAYING IN JERUSALEM GOD-FEARING JEWS FROM EVERY NATION UNDER HEAVEN.

Now, the temptation for to just gloss over this and not give it much thought. So please understand...the Holy Spirit is a person...just like you and me, except that we cannot physically see Him. So this isn't about a God way up there who you go see on Sundays or when you are in trouble. This is a constant companion...with you always and everywhere you go. Now, you can go through your day and act like He's not there...but that would be a lie, because He is as real as the guy in the mirror.

This was God's plan when He took Jesus back to heaven to sit at His right hand praying for you. This Holy Spirit is called your teacher, counselor, helper, comforter, close friend, and your protector.

Remember, God communicates to His people in the following three ways plus a fourth:

- 1. His People---the church
- 2. Prayer---two-way conversation with God.
- 3. Through His Holy Word---the Bible
- 4. The Holy Spirit---your constant companion

You are never alone. Never. And you need to know your God is FOR you and LOVES you so much that He sent the Holy Spirit to be with you always. This should affect a few very important things:

- Your Behavior
- Your Speech
- Your Relationships
- Your Confidence

The Big Challenge

Live as though Jesus were in the room...every room you will ever be in.

Talk as though He was listening.

Do what you would do if you knew He would ALWAYS be there to help you.

BIBLE READING:

Luke 24:45-47

THEN HE OPENED THEIR MINDS SO THEY COULD UNDERSTAND THE SCRIPTURES. HE TOLD THEM, "THIS IS WHAT IS WRITTEN: THE MESSIAH WILL SUFFER AND RISE FROM THE DEAD ON THE THIRD DAY, AND REPENTANCE FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS WILL BE PREACHED IN HIS NAME TO ALL NATIONS, BEGINNING AT JERUSALEM. THEY WENT OUT FROM US, BUT THEY DID NOT REALLY BELONG TO US. FOR IF THEY HAD BELONGED TO US, THEY WOULD HAVE **REMAINED WITH US; BUT THEIR GOING SHOWED** THAT NONE OF THEM BELONGED TO US. BUT YOU HAVE AN ANOINTING FROM THE HOLY ONE, AND ALL OF YOU KNOW THE TRUTH. I DO NOT WRITE TO YOU BECAUSE YOU DO NOT KNOW THE TRUTH. BUT BECAUSE YOU DO KNOW IT AND BECAUSE NO LIE COMES FROM THE TRUTH. WHO IS THE LIAR? IT IS WHOEVER DENIES THAT JESUS IS THE CHRIST. SUCH A PERSON IS THE ANTICHRIST-DENYING THE FATHER AND THE SON. NO ONE WHO DENIES THE SON HAS THE FATHER; WHOEVER ACKNOWLEDGES THE SON HAS THE FATHER ALSO. AS FOR YOU, SEE THAT WHAT YOU HAVE HEARD FROM THE BEGINNING **REMAINS IN YOU. IF IT DOES, YOU ALSO WILL** REMAIN IN THE SON AND IN THE FATHER. AND THIS IS WHAT HE PROMISED US-ETERNAL LIFE. I AM WRITING THESE THINGS TO YOU ABOUT THOSE WHO ARE TRYING TO LEAD YOU ASTRAY. AS FOR YOU, THE ANOINTING YOU **RECEIVED FROM HIM REMAINS IN YOU, AND YOU** DO NOT NEED ANYONE TO TEACH YOU. BUT AS HIS ANOINTING TEACHES YOU ABOUT ALL THINGS AND AS THAT ANOINTING IS REAL, NOT COUNTERFEIT-JUST AS IT HAS TAUGHT YOU, **REMAIN IN HIM.**

Your simple act of belief in your heart has made all the difference! Now it is time to walk it out. Respond to the following prompts by writing them in a journal, talking with someone, or <u>send them to us.</u>

- 1. Give your basic understanding of who the Holy Spirit is
- 2. What does this mean to you?
- 3. Can you see the confidence this can bring to your life?
- 4. What does the Holy Spirit have to do with you and your daily life?
- 5. How will you begin interact with the Holy Spirit in your daily life?
- 6. Please list any questions or other observations from Session Five.

Congratulations!

This was no small accomplishment and we want to commend you for taking these first steps. From here, we encourage you to be sure to become a part of a local church or check out Free Chapel's Online Campus.

If you have any questions about your new walk with Christ, message us and our team will contact you!