

ONLY THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT – PART 3 (COMPASSION AND FAITHFULNESS)

Romans 8:11 ... “But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.”

Today we end our series about the power of the Holy Spirit to accomplish what we cannot do ourselves. This series touched on only six different areas of our lives that are affected by the Holy Spirit. In truth, every aspect of your life will improve as you allow the Holy Spirit to guide you.

COMPASSION – Luke 10:33 reads: “But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion.”

The story of the good Samaritan is an example of the compassion God expects us to have for others; even complete strangers ... even our enemies. A Jewish man was attacked by robbers and left for dead on the road. Other people, including some Jews, passed by the injured man and offered no help. But, a man of the province of Samaria, an ancient enemy of Israel, stopped and helped the Jew. Would you, a Christian, stop to help an injured Muslim, especially if the person was a stranger? Would you help your cruel and mean neighbor? I have often helped people who despised me; people who spread ugly rumors and treated me with hatred. To be honest, I could not do that on my own. I had to allow God's Holy Spirit to work through me to help in ways I could not otherwise do.

FAITHFULNESS – Paul tells us in Romans 3:3 “For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect?”

God is not faithful to us only because we expect him to be. He is not faithful only because he promises to be. God is faithful to us even when we disobey him, when we lose our faith, and when we do not believe because it is his character to be faithful. The Holy Spirit demonstrates God's faithfulness to us in ways we cannot ignore. This demonstration of God's faithfulness, inspires us to mature in our relationship with Christ. The Holy Spirit reveals God to us, he displays God's power, and he convicts us when we disobey and sin against God.

If you find it difficult to be compassionate toward other people – especially strangers and your enemies – ask God to release the power of the Holy Spirit through your life. And, if you doubt God's faithfulness, ask his Holy Spirit to reveal God to you.

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