***Life Concepts #2 The Holy Spirit***

*“Christ did not come to make us Christians, he came to make*

*us fully human....If Christ came to make us human, the*

*humanity and the reality of art find their foundation in him.”*

***Hans Rookmaker***

*(Author, Modern Art & the Death of a Culture,* and *Art Needs No Justification)*

When the Word (Jesus) entered the world, “God became dialogical.” Jesus spoke about God’s nature to us and ended our exile from God because of our sin and separation. Jesus brought man close to God. “I will ask the Father, and he will give you another helper that he may be with you forever.” John 14:16. The Holy Spirit is Christ’s presence inside every believer, and is received at the moment of conversion.

When Jesus was resurrected and returned to the Father, he left us with the Holy Spirit so that we would not be alone. Our surrender to the power of the Holy Spirit produces obedience, trust and holiness. “Spiritual breathing” produces a rhythm of surrender in the life of the believer. Sin is confessed — as we are breathing out, and we receive forgiveness and faith—as we breathe in God’s promises.

Satan is an expert at creating obstacles to our faith such as cleverly crafted lies, doubts, and temptations. The Holy Spirit is your source of power to walk in victory not frustration or defeat.

*For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ.*

 ***2 Corinthians 10:3-5***

*So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.**For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.*

*The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery;**idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.**Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.*

***Galatians 5:16-25***

*This is the message we have heard from Him and announced to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

***1 John 1:5-9***

We can trust the Holy Spirit to guide us in every aspect of our lives. The God of the universe created us in His image, giving us all different gifts and strengths. His Spirit

can also inform the work we do.

“*Then the Lord said to Moses,**“Look, I have specifically chosen Bezalel son of Uri, grandson of Hur, of the tribe of Judah.**I have filled him with the Spirit of God, giving him great wisdom, ability, and expertise in all kinds of crafts. He is a master craftsman, expert in working with gold, silver, and bronze.**He is skilled in engraving and mounting gemstones and in carving wood. He is a master at every craft!”*

***Exodus 31:1-5***

**THINK:**Are you walking in daily dependence on Christ in your work in fashion, art and design?

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. How do we know if we’re truly filled with Holy Spirit?

2. Which characteristics of the Spirit-filled life do you identify with most/ least? (See Galatians 5:22-23)

**ENGAGING WITH OTHERS:** Is there anyone you know who lacks confidence and joy in the Christian life? Who is frustrated or feeling defeated? Maybe you can share with them the Satisfied booklet or its Scriptures related to walking in the Spirit.

**PRAYER:** Do you need the Holy Spirit to speak to you? Don’t feel the need to work up a feeling here. You may sense His urging, conviction or guidance. Respond to Him quickly. It’s a good practice to journal your spiritual growth.

**REFLECTION:** What areas in your life need to be surrendered to God? What is holding you back from trusting God with every area of your life?

**OPTIONAL SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL:**

“Finding Divine Inspiration: Working with the Holy Spirit in Your Creativity” by J. Scott McElroy

Satisfied booklet: https://www.cru.org/train-and-grow/spiritual-growth/satisfied.html

Transferable Concepts: How You Can Be Filled with the Holy Spirit

http://www.cru.org/training-and-growth/classics/transferable-concepts/