



new life fellowship

Sermon Title: The Holy Spirit: Living in the Spirit

Speaker: Richard Villodas, Lead Pastor

Scripture: Romans 5:5-8

Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. ⁶The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. ⁸Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God. (NIV)

Sermon Outline:

The Holy Spirit doesn't want to give us an encounter here and there. The Holy Spirit doesn't want us to just have an encounter but wants us to live in the Spirit.

In today's scriptures, Paul is saying there are two ways of living in this world: one way is living according to the flesh and the other way is living according to the Spirit. Paul says we need to choose which way we will go.

What does "no condemnation" mean?

- You know what the verdict on you is going to be.
- You don't have to live in fear or uncertainty.
- God has made up His mind about you.

Although you might not feel free, forgiven, or saved know that in Christ Jesus you are free, forgiven and saved therefore there is no condemnation.

Paul says there is no condemnation and then talks about the law. Christ strips sin's condemning power over us so that we have a new standing, a new identity, in the world. Because of this we have a new identity and standing in the world. Christ not only died so that the laws could be fulfilled for us, but he sent the Holy Spirit to us so that the law can be fulfilled through us.

What does it mean to fulfill the law? Love is the fulfillment of the law. The Holy Spirit is given to us so that we can give expression to what Christ has done for us in the world. The challenge before us is that we still need to deal with living in the flesh.

The Flesh: Our fallen, ego-centric human nature. Flesh doesn't necessarily refer to our bodies but is the part of our humanity that takes center stage and is driven by our appetite and desires.

To be in Spirit is to live a life of ever-deepening surrender to Jesus Christ.

We live in accordance with the Spirit by cultivating three habits:

- Through repeated acts of prayer.
- Through repeated acts of love.
- Through repeated acts of confession.

The reason we are invited to focus our attention on God as a response to God is because God has always had his mind set on you. There is not a moment that goes by that God is not paying full attention to you.

Sermon Summary:

This Sunday, Pastor Richard Villodas, Lead Pastor, continues our sermon series on the on the Holy Spirit. Today Pastor Rich focuses on what it means to live in the Spirit and explores how this can be our daily reality.

Sermon Questions:

1. Do you feel an invitation from Christ in today's scripture passage? What words resonate with you? Why?
2. How do you feel when you hear that is "no condemnation" in Christ? Are you able to let this soak into your being, knowing that you don't need to live in fear or uncertainty and that God has already made up His mind about you? Find time this week to sit with this reality, offering praise and thanks to God.
3. Where has your attention gone this week? What has dominated your thinking this week? Have you been living in the Flesh this week spending more time on social media or satisfying your appetite for other things that our culture says you need? Can you see how living this way can be hostile towards God? Pray for forgiveness and guidance on how you can turn away from living in the flesh so that you might move towards living in the Spirit.
4. Which one of the three habits listed above do you feel the Holy Spirit is calling you to now? Do you need to grow more rooted in a life of prayer? Are you being lead to be more outward centered, offering love to those around you? Or do you need to begin confessing on a regular basis so that your witness for Christ is heightened?