



Growth in the Spirit

2 Corinthians 3:17-18 RSV

17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being changed into his likeness from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

You have received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, so what's the next step?

There are three components that you need to keep the flame of the Spirit burring brightly in your life(2 Timothy 1:6). You need a **Community of Disciples who are in Mission.**

Community—Central to the Christian life is being connected to other believers. Our relationship with Jesus is personal, but not private. The connection we are seeking is where you know others and they know you. It is truly sharing life together. It is important that you attend a Prayer Meeting. It is at a Prayer Meeting that you will be
1) supported and
2) challenged
in your walk as a believer.

In community there will be times of adversity. In these moments you will learn together how to practice mercy and forgiveness, forming you to be ambassadors of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:20).

Discipleship—There is a specific purpose for this community: it is to come to a deeper, more personal relationship with Jesus by together praying and studying his Word, thus to move in the charismatic gifts of the Spirit to build up the Body of Christ. This means that you need to daily be growing in your own prayer life and your knowledge of the Word of God so that you can bring the fruits of this prayer and study to the community to help it grow.

Another important aspect of discipleship is to constantly be reading books on the spiritual life, listening to teaching, and attending Conferences and Retreats. This will keep your heart on fire.



A Spiritual Director is one of the greatest tools of the Holy Spirit to cause us to grow in the spiritual life. A Spiritual Director is someone with the charism of discernment that can help us to see the movement of God in our life. Begin to pray and ask the Holy Spirit to lead you to someone that has this gift.

Mission— Jesus has sent us to the world to lead it to him and to transform it into his Kingdom. Evangelization is the primary purpose of the Church. We are each to win souls for Christ and to offer ourselves through our time, talent and treasure for the

needs of others. It is vital that we serve in our parishes and give at least a tithe of 10%. We should go to Father and present ourselves for ministry within the parish. Jesus taught, give and it shall be given to you” (Luke 6:38). As you give away your faith, you will grow in faith.

As you are about your life be sensitive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit as he will send you to those in need. Do not reserve the use of the gifts of the Holy Spirit to the Prayer Meeting. Wherever you go say, “Here I am, Lord. Send me!” With a servants heart like this the Father will begin to arrange your life to connect with those He longs to reach.

**Remember,
you are blessed
to be a blessing!**



“Miracle Hour” by Linda Schubert

This is a model for your personal prayer time. Spend 5 minutes in each section.

Lectio Divina (*Divine Reading*)

Lectio To read. Pick a passage and read it four times slowly.

Meditatio To meditate. Let me passage slowly ruminate in your heart allowing the Holy Spirit to speak into your life.

Oratio To pray. Speak to the Lord based on the passage. Is the passage moving you to praise or is it moving you to intercession?

Contemplatio To contemplate. Sit with the Lord and allow Him to speak personally into your life.

Personal Reflection

Community— Read Proverbs 27:17 Matthew 18:20, and Galatians 6:2. What does this teach you about community?

Disciples— Read Acts 2:42-47 and Matthew 16:24. What does this teach you about discipleship?

Mission— Read Matthew 28:19-20, Jn 15:8. What does this teach you about Mission ?



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