

# The Holy Spirit and Spiritual Formation!

*ESV Romans 8:16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,  
17 and if children, then heirs-- heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.*

The **Holy Spirits** presence in our lives is crucial for our spirit **spiritual formation**, the process of growing in Christ, without Him we remain underdeveloped children of God.

Each level illustrates our growing relationship with God The Father!

As the relationship deepens so to does our communication with God.

Servants speak differently than friends and sons speak differently than friends of the master, all based on knowledge.

**Our vocabulary changes as we mature!**

*1 Corinthians 13:11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, thought like a child, and reasoned like a child. When I became an adult, I no longer used childish ways.*

At some point we must stop talking like children, praying like children & preaching, teaching, and prophesying & reacting like children.

It is Holy Spirit who reveals the deep things of God and causes us to mature, from **servants to friends and from friends to sons of God!**

*ESV John 12:26 If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.*

Servants are always ready & willing to do their will of their Masters.

Servants that follow The Master (Jesus) are honored by The Father!

*ESV John 8:35 The slave (servant) does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever.*

Servants have a lesser status and play a lesser role in the house!

**A servant** is no more than a slave owned and controlled by their master. He controls the destiny, and even when they die.

As we grow in **knowledge and grace**, we become **friends** of God!

*ESV Proverbs 17:17 A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.*

**A Friend** is a companion, someone we share our lives with, the good, the bad and the ugly!

Friends are the ones who really know what's going on in our lives and love us anyway!

*Proverbs 18:24 A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.*

If we want someone to go through life to share our struggles and successes, we must share our struggles and successes with them.

**A friend is a safe place, a person who never judges us but will correct us in love!**

*ESV Proverbs 27:9 Oil and perfume make the heart glad, and the sweetness of a friend comes from his earnest counsel.*

The anointing oil and pleasant perfumes change the fragrance of a room making it pleasant to be around, so does the counsel of a friend.

Oils and perfumes have a **calming effect** on people, so to do good friends!

*John 15:15 Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.*

Jesus told His disciples today I no longer consider you servants but friends, they had graduated to **a new level** in their relationship!

As I said before **the difference between a servant, a friend and a son is knowledge!**

Jesus says now that I've made you my friends, I will tell you more of my plans for your life and this world!

Friends share secrets, they share things with one another they don't share with everyone!

**Jesus sharing The Holy Spirit with us is a sign of His love for us and a deeper relationship with Him.**

*Romans 8:16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,  
17 and if children, then heirs-- heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.*

**Sons are heirs of God! We inherit a portion of everything God has!  
The riches of God's glory are **now** apart of our future.**

As sons we will reign with Christ in His Kingdom!

The same promises God made to Jesus we also receive!

Because **Holy Spirit** shares with us what Jesus and The Father know!

*1 Cor 2:11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.*

Being given **The Holy Spirit** gives us access to the secret things of God!

Being given **The Holy Spirit** gives us **intimacy** with God!

The Holy Ghost makes us **sons** of God Almighty!

*John 1:12 But as many as received (Jesus) him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:*

*1Jo 3:1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.*

Behold means to **look at and strongly consider!** Consider what?  
The awesome, incredible, magnificent love God has for His sons!

It's so amazing it can actually be seen in how God blesses us with His **Holy Spirit!**

In **Luke 11:1-13** Jesus is teaching His disciples how to pray!

He talks about a **friend** who comes to another friend in need, the friend has nothing to give the friend in need so he goes to one of his friends at midnight asking for help.

***Luke 11:7** Your friend might answer you from inside his house, 'Don't bother me! The door is already locked, and my children are in bed. I can't get up to give you anything.'*

Jesus goes on to say... **vs 8** *I tell you, even though he will not get up and give you the bread because of friendship, yet because of your shameless audacity he will surely get up and give you as much as you need.*

The **KJV** uses the word **"importunity."** It means **shameless audacity!**

**Shameless persistence** someone who won't quit or give up until they get what they need because

His friend said no I won't be inconvenienced but he didn't care, it was late not only was everyone in the house asleep, but everyone in the neighborhood was asleep.

He didn't care, I know you have it, that's why I came to you, and you know I you know you have it, so get up and give me what I need.

No doubt at some point his neighbors were wondering why doesn't he just give his friend what he needs.

Jesus continues the parable... ***ESV Luke 11:9** And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.*

***10** For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.*

***11** What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent;*

***12** or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion?*

***13** If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"*

Jesus is saying when we **learn** the kind of love The Father has for us, we act with **importunity** (excessive persistence and shameless audacity)!

**Rom 8:32** Paul says since The Father willing gave Jesus to us as a sacrifice, you gotta know He will give us everything else we need!