

Week 1: Practicing Attentiveness to God’s Presence in Daily Life

Speaker: Josh Feathers

The Role of the Holy Spirit in Shaping Christlike Character

- Discuss: How do we think the Holy Ghost can play a part in shaping our behavior?
- Discuss: Tell of a time when you knew the Holy Ghost led you in a different direction than what you wanted? What was the outcome?

What is the Holy Ghost?

- Spirit of God poured out on day of Pentecost to believers (Acts 2:1-4; Acts 2:16)
- Teacher, Comforter, Intercessor, Counselor, Advocate, Helper, Assistant for God’s people (John 14:15-26)

Changing our Character

- Not forced outward compliance
- Internal transformation of our hearts
- We were shapen in iniquity. (Psalms 51:5)
- Our nature, thoughts, and reasoning are carnal.
- Cannot rely on our own internal compass
- Holy Ghost often quickens us in a situation and can change our decisions.
- Holy Ghost teaches us how to act or respond and changes our behavior, helping us in future circumstances.
- Discuss: Share a time when the Holy Ghost quickened you in your spirit. What were the results of your being obedient to the Spirit and not your own reasoning?
- Old Covenant vs. New Covenant (Hebrews 8:10; Ezekiel 36:26-27)

Transformation is Fruit

- Fruits are byproducts of Christlike living.
- Works of the flesh (Galatians 5:16-21)
- Fruit of the Spirit – spiritual byproduct of healthy vine (Jesus) (Galatians 5:22-26; John 15:4-5)
- Love, joy, etc., cannot be manufactured by trying harder. We develop these traits by following Jesus and letting the Holy Ghost shape us.
- Discuss: How can we learn faith if our faith is never tested?
- Discuss: Can anybody share an example of how the Holy Ghost developed one of the spiritual fruits in your life? (Love, Joy, Peace, Longsuffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness, Temperance)

Having the Mind of Christ

- Holy Ghost teaches by illuminating scripture, changing our thinking and perspective. (Philippians 2:5)
- Discuss: How important is it to our spiritual growth and development to have the mind of Christ? How detrimental is it to not have the mind of Christ?
- Holy Ghost reshapes thinking on how we view relationships, money, power and creates new behavior in us. (Romans 12:2)
- Learn to take everything to God. (Proverbs 3:5)
- Seek God’s counsel for direction. (I Corinthians 2:12-16)

Week 1: Practicing Attentiveness to God’s Presence in Daily Life

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God’s Spirit Brings Conviction

- What is conviction? (Romans 8:13-14)
- Heeding conviction helps us grow.
- Our nature is evil. We must be born of the Spirit.
- Obey the Holy Ghost and let it teach us.
- God’s grace brings conviction and helps us to change.
- Conviction is necessary for us to grow spiritually. (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- Discuss: Can you tell of a time when the conviction of the Holy Ghost shaped your behavior?

Community Over Isolation

- We need the church and each other for spiritual growth.
- Discuss: How does the Holy Ghost shape us in our community? (1 Corinthians 12:4-11)
- Profits from manifestations of the Spirit:
- Testimonies, knowledge, and revelations need to be shared to strengthen body of Christ. We are called to be witnesses.
- We are diverse with our gifts, administrations, backgrounds, etc., but are one body knit together. (Ephesians 4:11; Hebrews 10:25)
- Different ministries are for perfecting saints.

Things to Think About

- Think of some times when the Holy Ghost quickened you in your spirit. What were the results of your being obedient to the Spirit and not your own reasoning?
- Which fruit has the Holy Ghost developed in your life? (Love, Joy, Peace, Longsuffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness, Temperance) What was the process the Holy Ghost used?
- What can you personally do to grow and develop the mind of Christ?
- Think of some times when the conviction of the Holy Ghost shaped your behavior? What was the outcome?

NOTES:

PATHWAY TO
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The Role of the Holy Spirit in Shaping Christlike Character

How do we think the Holy Ghost can play a part in shaping our behavior?

Tell us of a time where you knew the Holy Ghost led you into a different direction than what you wanted? What was the outcome?

What is the Holy Ghost?

The Holy Ghost is the spirit of God that was poured out on the day of Pentecost to believers.

Acts 2:1-4 **The Day of Pentecost**

Acts 2:16 **Spoken by the Prophet Joel**

What is the Holy Ghost?

It was sent to be a teacher and an intercessor for God's people.

The Comforter (John 14:15-26)

VS: 26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

What is the Holy Ghost?

It was sent to be a teacher and an intercessor for God's people

- Intercessor, consoler, advocate. One who pleads another's case before a judge. A helper or assistant.

Changing our Character

Christlike behavior isn't about forced outward compliance, but rather an internal transformation of our hearts.

Psalms 51:5

Behold, I was shapen in iniquity and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Changing our Character

- Our nature is carnal. Our thoughts are carnal. Our reasoning is carnal
- If we go simply off of our internal compass then we will be coming up short and misled
- The Holy Ghost was sent to the church to be a teacher and an advocate

How many times has the Holy Ghost quickened us in a situation? How many times has it changed our decisions?

Changing our Character

We have to realize that in these situations we are being taught how to act or respond and that the Holy Ghost is changing our behavior. This allows us to act different in future circumstances

Share of a time where the Holy Ghost has quickened you in your spirit and what were the results of you being obedient to the spirit and not your own reasoning.

Changing our Character

The Old covenant vs the New Covenant

The laws were written on tablets of stone and now they are written on our hearts.

Changing our Character

Hebrews 8:10

I will put my laws into their minds and write them in their hearts.

Ezekiel 36:26-27

A new heart also will I give you and a new spirit will I put within you.

And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgements and do them.

Transformation is Fruit

Fruits are the byproduct of Christlike living

The Works of the Flesh (Galatians 5:16-21)

All of these works are carnal and derived from the heart of a man and don't need to be taught to us.

The Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-26)

- Fruit is spiritual and the byproduct of a healthy vine (Jesus)
- All of the fruit has to be developed in our lives
- How do we learn faith when our faith is never tested?
- We can't manufacture love, joy, etc by trying harder, but we develop these traits by following Jesus and allowing the Holy Ghost to shape us

Transformation is Fruit

Can anybody share an example of how the Holy Ghost developed one the spiritual fruits in your life?

**Love - Joy - Peace - Longsuffering -
Gentleness - Goodness - Faith - Meekness -
Temperance**

Transformation is Fruit

John 15:4-5

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

Having the Mind of Christ

The Holy Ghost is a teacher which illuminates scripture as well as changes our thinking and perspective

Philippians 2:5

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus

- How important is it to our spiritual growth and development to have the mind of Christ?
- How detrimental is it to not?

Having the Mind of Christ

Romans 12:2

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God

The Holy ghost reshapes our thinking on how we view relationships, money, power and it creates new behavior in us

Having the Mind of Christ

Proverbs 3:5

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding

- We have to learn to take everything to God and not trust in our own understanding
- If we seek God's counsel then he will direct our paths
- It is vital to us to have the mind of Christ in all we do and allow the Holy Ghost to direct our thoughts

Having the Mind of Christ

1 Corinthians 2:12-16

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God

Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned

Having the Mind of Christ

1 Corinthians 2:12-16

But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man

For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ

The Spirit Brings Conviction

Shaping Christlike behavior isn't just about adding good habits, but it's also about putting to death the old ones

What is conviction?

Romans 8:13-14

For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

The Spirit Brings Conviction

- The Holy Ghost is a teacher that will bring conviction in our lives concerning our actions in order for us to grow
- Our nature is evil and we must be born of the spirit
- We have to be obedient to the Holy Ghost and allow it to teach us even when it goes against our very nature
- Conviction is God's grace in our lives and it is what ultimately changes us

Conviction is necessary for us to grow spiritually

Can you tell us of a time where the conviction of the Holy Ghost has shaped your behavior?

The Spirit Brings Conviction

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new

Community over Isolation

We need the church and we need each other for spiritual growth

How does the Holy Ghost shape us in our community?

1 Corinthians 12:4-11 (31)

We Are All One Body

But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal

Community over Isolation

- We have not be taught by the Holy Ghost to stay silent
- We all have testimonies, knowledge, revelations in the word etc that need to be shared to strengthen the body of Christ
- Everybody is different in gifts, administrations, backgrounds etc, but we are all one body knit together
- We need community and we need the church for growth

Community over Isolation

Ephesians 4:11

And he gave some, apostles; and some prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ

- All of these ministries have one thing in common - Perfecting the saints
- Our job once we get the Holy Ghost is first allow it to teach us how to live Godly and second, be a witness to others
- We build the church together and we grow together - Not in Isolation

Community over Isolation

Hebrews 10:25

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching