

Acts 18:24-19:10
Sermon Notes
September 2, 2018

"Among those who attend religious services, large majorities across all demographic groups and major Christian traditions say becoming 'closer to God' is a very important factor in their decision to attend religious services."

Pew Research Group study on church attendance

About God's Presence:

1. The nature
2. The evidence
3. The experience

Romans 3:23 ESV

23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Romans 6:3-4 ESV

3 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

Romans 8:9 ESV

9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

John 14:16-17 ESV

16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

1 Corinthians 6:19 ESV

19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own,

Ephesians 1:19-20 ESV

19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might 20 that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places,

"The Holy Spirit does regenerate men. He has power to raise the dead. He has power to impart life to those who are morally dead or decaying. He has power to impart an entirely new nature to those whose nature is so corrupt that to men they appear to be beyond hope."

R.A. Torrey

Galatians 5:22-23 ESV

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

3. The Experience of the Spirit requires:

- a. Acknowledgement
- b. Dependence
- c. Responsiveness
- d. Desire

Exodus 33:15 ESV

15 And he said to him, "If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here.

Philippians 2:13 ESV

13 for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Ephesians 4:30 ESV

30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

1 Thessalonians 5:19 ESV

19 Do not quench the Spirit.

John 7:37-39 ESV

37 On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'" 39 Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Psalms 42:1-2 ESV

1 As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. 2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?