



CONDITION #3
"WALK IN (BY) THE SPIRIT"
(Galatians 5:16)

Meaning: Constantly be walking or living by the power of God the Holy Spirit who dwells within.

Key Word: DEPEND (rely, trust, cling to, have God as your sufficiency).

Surgeon's glove illustration:

Not walking by the Spirit is like the glove saying to the surgeon: "I don't need you at all! I'll do this operation all by myself!" How foolish! What the glove should say is this: "I can do nothing apart from the hand of the surgeon which can fill me and use me!" (John 15:5 and Philippians 4:13).

Tightrope Illustration: *As the tightrope walker desperately needs the rope every step of the way, so the believer needs the Holy Spirit every moment.*

Personal questions: Am I depending on the Lord for help and strength moment by moment, or am I struggling in my own strength and trying to accomplish things by myself in the energy of the flesh? Am I God-conscious and God-dependent? (Eph. 6:10; Jn. 15:1-7)



THE BLESSED RESULT

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance" (Gal. 5:22-23).

"Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God" (Philippians 1:11)

"For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth" (Ephesians 5:9).

"He that believeth on Me, as the Scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water" (John 7:38).

"[ye shall] endued with power from on high.... ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you" (Luke 24:49 and Acts 1:8)

"Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost" (Romans 15:13).

"And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost." (Acts 13:52).

"BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT"

A Vital Message For Those Who Have Believed On the Lord Jesus Christ



THE MIDDLETOWN BIBLE CHURCH

349 East Street
Middletown, Connecticut 06457
Telephone: 860-346-0907

www.middletownbiblechurch.org

All those who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ receive the Holy Spirit of God (John 7:37-39). This blessed and divine Person dwells within every born again believer (1 Cor. 6:19; Rom. 8:9). The living God wants to powerfully WORK in the submissive, trusting believer to produce CHRIST-LIKENESS (see Philippians 2:13).

The Command:

“BE (continuously) FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT”

(Ephesians 5:18)

Paraphrase: Do not be under the influence of alcohol, but be under the blessed influence and control of the God who indwells you!

Surgeon’s glove illustration:

The surgeon wants to fill his glove with his hand in order to accomplish a wonderful work as he skillfully performs major surgery. But the glove must meet certain conditions or else the surgeon cannot use it.

There are THREE CONDITIONS that must be met in order to be filled with the Spirit:



Meaning: Do not be allowing sin to go unconfessed, thus causing sorrow and grief to the Holy One who indwells you. He refuses to fill and use an unclean vessel.

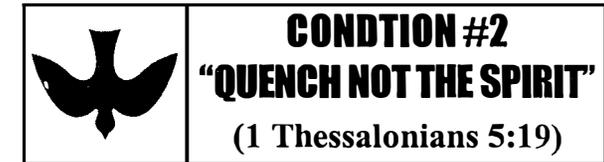
Key Word: CONFESS (1 John 1:9, acknowledge, don’t hide, don’t cover up but face up, be honest before God, judge yourself, see sin as God sees it, admit to it, say the same thing about sin that God does).

Surgeon’s glove illustration:

Obviously a surgeon would refuse to use a glove that is dirty. When he begins to do his work, he always uses a clean glove.

Personal questions: Am I clean and fit for the Master’s use? Is there any unconfessed sin in my life (Psalm 139:23-24)?

Passages to Study: 1 John 1:5-10; John 13:4-11; James 4:8-10; Proverbs 28:13; Psalm 51 and Psalm 32.



Meaning: Do not be hindering or limiting God’s mighty working in your life by saying “NO” to God or by being unwilling to do His will.

Key Word: YIELD (saying yes to God, a complete willingness to do God’s will – whatever, however, whenever; saying “NO” to self and letting God have His way and His sway. It involves presenting myself to God and placing myself at His disposal (Rom. 6:13).

Surgeon’s glove illustration:

Quenching the Spirit would be like the surgeon’s glove clinging to a chair or some other object, refusing to allow the surgeon access to the glove (refusing to be used). The surgeon says, “Just let me put my hand into you so that I can do a marvelous work!” But the glove refuses!

Personal Question: Am I willing to do God’s will no matter what it is, or am I insistent on having my own way and doing what pleases me? See Luke 22:42 and Christ’s example in John 4:34.