

The Indispensable Spirit

Romans 8:8-17

If the Holy Spirit were to suddenly exit this earth, most churches would continue on as if nothing had happened! Yet, those who are tuned in to the Scriptures know how indispensable the Holy Spirit is.

★1) We cannot be saved apart from the Spirit's convicting ministry: "And when He is come, He will reprove (convict, convince) the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment" (*John 16:8*).

★2) We cannot be regenerated apart from the Spirit: "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God" (*John 3:5*).

★3) No one belongs to Christ apart from the Spirit's indwelling: "If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His" (*Rom. 8:9*).

★4) We cannot enjoy assurance of salvation apart from the Spirit's inner witness: "The Spirit Himself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God" (*Rom. 8:16*).

★5) We cannot be a member of Christ's Church apart from the Spirit: "For by one Spirit are (were) we all baptized into one body" (*1 Cor. 12:13*).

★6) We cannot learn truth apart from the Spirit's teaching ministry: "When He, the Spirit of truth is come, He will guide you into all truth" (*John 16:13; 1 Cor. 2:9-13*).

★7) We cannot bear fruit apart from the Spirit's filling: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faithfulness..." (*Gal. 5:22-23*).

★8) We cannot have victory over sin apart from the Spirit: "For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death" (*Rom. 8:2*).

★9) We cannot overcome the flesh apart from the Spirit: "Walk in the Spirit and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh" (*Gal. 5:16*).

★10) We cannot be conformed to Christ apart from the Spirit: "[We] are changed into the same image from glory to glory even as by the Spirit of the Lord" (*2 Cor. 3:18*).

~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org

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