



## Yielding to the Holy Spirit

By Ken Terry on March 4, 2022

**TODAY'S READING:** Acts 16

How often do we seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit of God? If we are honest, the answer would be not often enough. That may be, in part, why we do not recognize the leading of the Spirit in our lives. My friends, we need to seek the Holy Spirit's leadership in our lives to ensure that our actions and behaviors are lining up to the will of God. Take our reading today, for example--Paul's dependence on the Triune is in full effect, *"Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them"* (Acts 16:6-7).

How do we get to this level of understanding? My friends, it is all about what we do, what we say and our responses in every aspect of life. We need Christ to be evident in us and the Holy Spirit of God reflecting His fruit through us as we engage in the world around us. The first step in achieving this effort is to surrender to the Lordship of Jesus, then engage with Him through the Holy Spirit. You see, for our lives to reflect this level of Christ mindedness; we need to know more about Him. We find Him in scripture. We need to read and study God's Word, then meditate on these principles and concepts of Christ. The more we know, the more material the Holy Spirit will have to work with in our hearts and minds. This is how we become one with the triune God.

Back to our passage, Paul and Silas were wonderfully fitted for their ministry, as they were led by the Holy Spirit of God and approved by Jesus, the Son of God. As they shared the findings of the Jerusalem Council with the people and preached the gospel message, entire households were saved and baptized. There were even demon possessed fortune tellers speaking to these mighty men of God, *"Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling. This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, 'These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation'"* (vv. 16-17).

My friends, the same triune God who indwelled Paul and Silas is with every blood-washed believer who follows Christ today. What will you do with the power that raised Christ from the grave! What will you do with the resurrection power of God? I pray you will yield to the Holy Spirit's leadership in your life. I encourage you to pray in the Holy Spirit as we discussed yesterday. Learn how to yearn for Him and search for Him. Beg Him to lead you in all things Jesus, and maybe you will have a timely movement of God in your life. Paul did when he was jailed in the innermost section of the jail, and through his suffering, being beaten and jailed, he rejoiced, sang praises, prayed and God moved, *"Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed"* (vs. 26).

We all have the ability to be significant in the kingdom of God. We only need the courage and assertiveness to step aside and allow the Holy Spirit to do His work in and through us. Yes, let your life be a living testimony to Jesus, share with others what he has done in your life. Once you have the audience, share the gospel story, the story of glory. This is what we are commanded to do. We are the catalyst of God's saving grace through His Holy Spirit. Paul and Silas had great success in this effort, and so will we if we yield to the Holy Spirit of God.

**PRAYER:** Our Father in the Heavens, we thank You for Jesus, our Lord and Savior and we thank You for Your Holy Spirit that indwells each one of us. Father, we ask that You continue to help us live our lives in surrender. Help us, Father, to engage with You daily in Your word. Please give us wisdom and insight as You reveal more of Yourself to us. This is necessary and needed, Father, as we desire to grow more into the image of Christ. Father, please move in us and through us as we engage in the world around us. We ask all these things in the matchless name of Jesus, amen.

**TOMORROW'S READING:** Weekend is for catch-up and review.

**MONDAY'S READING:** Galatians 1

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