

I know I said yesterday that we would discuss the ways we come into agreement with the devil today, but I'm pushing that back a few days because God had something else He wanted to say, which is far more important.

Day 6 — God Speaks, part 1 —

- God speaks all the time, but we have to learn how to tune our eyes and ears to His frequency. (1 Corinthians 2:6-16)
- What does that mean? Great question.
 - When I was growing up, I read my Bible a lot. I wanted to know the scriptures, so I could know God more. I was on the right track, yet I was still looking at scripture through a “fleshly” veil, so to speak. “For those who live according to the flesh set their MINDS on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.” Romans 8:5
 - Now, most of the time, we read “flesh” in that verse and think sin, and yes, that is true, but remember, God is all encompassing; He is multifaceted; He is multidimensional. And He calls us to seek Him with all of our heart (Jeremiah 29:13). He is a deep diving God, who loves a good treasure hunt, and He is always using code to trip up the enemy of our soul from understanding what God is actually saying to us. Remember, He is a relational God; He wants perfect relationship with us.
 - Most of us have grown up in a public or even private school system that trains us to put a lot of stock in our brains, what we know, learn through books, etc. When schools have cutbacks, they take away programs like art, band, choir, photography: creative classes that are not deemed AS important as math, reading, writing, and science...notice that history isn't even mentioned in there, but that is for another day.
 - In a school setting, we are trained to teach our students to enhance and grow their “left” brain, the side of logic, and to put the “right” brain, the creative, “seeing” side on the “back burner” so to speak. It's a cute side of the brain, but it definitely shouldn't be in charge, is the thinking. As a matter of fact, we even put a negative stigma on careers that are in the arts. We have heard people say things like. “Oh, you're a painter (pause for dramatic, condescending effect). What is your real job?”
 - Yep, admit it, somewhere in your life you have heard or maybe even thought a similar sentence about some kind of “Artsy” career. As a matter of fact, career is not usually linked to it. It is usually called a hobby or a pastime.
 - I have been brought up in the United States and have seen this “left” brain dominate society run rampant, yet I would venture a guess that most societies are handled this way. Many don't even allow the right side of the brain to be developed at all.
 - Now, go back 70 years, even 40 years, and you would have learned that the United States used to lead the world in inventions, that's right, inventions. In the public school (and many private school) settings, encouraging students to create in any fashion has become scarce and nearly obsolete...unless it is in technology. What do you think inventing is? It's creative. It's right brain.
- You may be saying, Heidi, this seems more like a psychology lesson in school than a daily devotional. And...that's where you would be wrong.
- Remember, “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.” 1 Peter 5:8. Satan is always working to erase God from our minds, from school, from industry, from all facets of society, and he absolutely does not

- want us to “live according to the Spirit.” Why? Because if we learn how to live according to the Spirit, our eyes and ears will be opened to see and understand satan’s tactics all the more, and he will have no way to hide in the shadows or the darkness.
- Satan infiltrates every facet of society. Who do you think pushed people to put away spiritual matters for science? Who do you think pushed people to develop their minds and not their creative side? And when people do use their creative side, we don’t take them seriously even when we watch their shows or profess to really like them.
 - So, the bottom line is, even in most churches, we have been trained to think only with our “left” brain. Why? Well, because most churches have removed Holy Spirit all together. We have no problem with Father God and Jesus God, and although we say we believe in a triune Godhead, we treat Holy Spirit as that cute little brother that no one takes seriously, and we put Him on the “back burner,” or let’s be honest, we often leave Him outside... because He is unpredictable; and He may embarrass us.
 - Wow!! That actually hurts my heart to even write that, but it needed to be said. “Holy Spirit, please forgive us, forgive the Church, the Bride of Christ, for being duped and arrogant to try and put you out of the Trinity. Thank You for forgiving us in Your perfect forgiveness.”
 - So, how do we learn to “live according to the Spirit”? First, we have to fully acknowledge Him as the third person of the Godhead. He is not an afterthought; He is absolutely NOT less important; AND, HE IS ABSOLUTELY VITAL TO OUR ABILITY TO LIVE ACCORDING TO THE SPIRIT. How could we possibly ever “live according to the Spirit” if we deny THE Spirit in our life and the Church as a whole? We CANNOT.
 - “God is Spirit, and those who worship Him MUST worship in spirit and truth.”
John 4:24
 - You may be asking out loud, what does this have to do with the scripture Romans 8:5? I’m glad you asked.
 - If I say, walk by the Spirit, does that seem tangible?
 - Questions pop up: How? What does that look like?
 - Most of the time, we come at that scripture from a “logical” left brain approach, and think, “I must train myself to honor God through reading scripture, going to church, praying daily, Bible study, etc., etc., etc.” — and TECHNICALLY, it is true...
 - BUT, and that is a big stop and look conjunction of a BUT — when we use our left brain of logic to approach God, we are actually, wait for it...living according to the flesh and setting our MINDS on the things of the flesh (Romans 8:5). When we come at God logically, we will, I would say always, but I will leave room for God to transform our mind through the washing of water by the word (Ephesians 5:26), so most of the time when we come to God logically, we are high-jacked by the religious spirit. Yep. We fall right into works based religion, which has nothing to do with REAL relationship with God.
 - How do I know? “God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” John 4:24
 - Oh, there is a lot in there. I can see many of you mentally scratching your heads.
 - Second, to “live according to the Spirit,” we must know Him. Now, when we ask Jesus to forgive us of our sins, and confess with our mouth that He is Lord, and give our lives to Him, the Holy Spirit comes near us to help guide us as we grow in Jesus relationship. Holy Spirit walks alongside of us.
 - But, we learn in Acts 1:4-5 that Jesus “COMMANDED them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” He said, “you have heard from Me, for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

- Did you notice the word “commanded” in that scripture? I hope so. If Jesus commanded His followers to wait for the Promise of the Father, does that sound like the indwelling of Holy Spirit is optional? Yeah, I don’t think so either.
- So, in closing part 1 of God Speaks, I want to offer you to pray with me to receive Holy Spirit INTO your life. If you want to receive the greatest gift, coupled with Salvation, of your entire life, put your hands up to Lord, and open your heart to receive Him as I pray over you.
- “Father God, thank You for giving us the gift of Holy Spirit. Thank You for planning from the beginning the perfect relationship between You and each of us, your children. Father with Your blessing and through You King Jesus, I ask for You to fill each person who is wanting real, tangible, Holy Spirit relationship and is listening and open to receiving right now. Fill them up to overflowing. I ask for You to baptize them with Holy Spirit and fire, Lord. In Jesus, mighty name, amen.”
- Now, there may be words you don’t recognize running through you right now. They may seem like gibberish, but they are not. It is a God language Holy Spirit is giving you, a way for your spirit to communicate with Him. Speak those words out loud. Keep saying them, letting them take root. The enemy will or is telling you it is ridiculous, but remember, he is petrified of you becoming a powerhouse threat to him, and he knows the only way that happens is through Holy Spirit baptism.
- The reason Holy Spirit starts with the tongue is because “the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell.” James 3:6
- When we yield our tongue to Holy Spirit through speaking the language He gives us, we are giving Him control of the member which defiles the whole body. In yielding, we remove that control from Satan and fully give it to God.
- WOW!! No wonder, the enemy does everything He can to erase Holy Spirit from the Godhead. If Holy Spirit gives us power, and we don’t have Him in us...well, that would make us powerless and pretty easy for our adversary the devil to trick us and render us useless in establishing the kingdom of God on earth as it is in Heaven.
- Until tomorrow, be blessed and full of good cheer!! If you already speak in tongues or you were just give a new tongue, practice it out loud as much as possible. Satan hates it, and He doesn’t know what your spirit is saying to Holy Spirit. Let’s trick him together. More on God Speaks tomorrow.