
Pneumatology and Life in the Spirit

Course Description

The key to the successful Christian life is walking and living by the Spirit. This course has two emphases: to increase our awareness of our own spirits and to become better acquainted with our Helper and Comforter, the Holy Spirit. All 1400 verses of Scripture that deal with the heart and spirit of man are closely considered, with the one objective of learning to sense our spirit and the Spirit of Christ within our spirit. In addition, we will meditate on a multitude of Scriptures that speak of the Holy Spirit so that we may come to know Him more personally and intimately than ever before. (Prerequi-site: REN103)

Course Texts

How to Walk by the Spirit by Mark and Patti Virkler

“How to Walk by the Spirit” teaching audios or videos by Mark Virkler

Intimacy with the Holy Spirit by Mark and Patti Virkler

Course Objectives:

Academic

As a result of the course, you will:

- You will give a definition of the following terms:
 - ✓ spirit
 - ✓ motivation
 - ✓ attitude
 - ✓ character trait
- Quote the following Scriptures:
 - ✓ Proverbs 4:23
 - ✓ Proverbs 27:19
 - ✓ I Corinthians 6:17
 - ✓ Deuteronomy 6:5
 - ✓ II Corinthians 7:1
 - ✓ Jeremiah 29:11
 - ✓ Jeremiah 24:7
 - ✓ I Corinthians 2:11,12
 - ✓ Philippians 2:13
 - ✓ 1 Samuel 16:7
 - ✓ Colossians 3:23

In addition:

- You will state the root meaning of both the Hebrew and Greek words translated “spirit”.
- You will list six possible influences on one’s spirit, giving a biblical example of each.

- You will list ten activities which we are to do whole-heartedly.
- You will state the only acceptable focus of whole-heartedness.
- You will list five things which God does to or for man's spirit.
- You will state two things we should do to our own spirits.
- You will discuss one thing we should do for other people's spirits, and one thing we should be careful not to do.
- You will state at least eight gifts God gives the heart of His beloved or characteristics of the heart which He gives.
- You will discuss the five senses of man's spirit, and how the supernatural flow expresses itself through each.
- You will state what one may do to purify the flow from his spirit.
- You will discuss the differences between expressions of man's spirit, demonic spirits and the Holy Spirit.
- You will discuss the way in which the Tabernacle was a picture of the three basic ways in which we may hear God speak.
- You will discuss the three things we can do to sharpen our spirits and make them more sensitive the moving of God.

Attitudinal

- You will be aware of the condition of your spirit and the influences that have created that condition.
- You will devote your whole heart to the Lord.
- You will live centered on Christ so that you may not respond to outward manifestations but, by the power of the Spirit, look upon the heart and meet the needs you see there.
- You will be aware of the dynamic of transference of spirits and guard your heart that you may only give and receive from the Spirit of Christ.
- You will honor your dreams as instruments of God for revelation and wisdom.

Behavioral

- You will guard your heart with all diligence.
- You will bring any negative or ungodly emotions in your spirit to the Lord for healing and restoration.
- You will bring any negative or ungodly character traits in your spirit to the Lord for forgiveness and cleansing.
- You will skillfully discern what activities of your life are spiritual (on the level of your spirit) and which are soulish or fleshly.
- You will seek to be used of God to refresh the spirits of those you meet.
- You will depend upon the grace of God to guard the words of your mouth that they may never crush the spirit of another.
- You will earnestly seek the gifts God wants to give you.
- You will offer the senses of your spirit to the Lord to be used by Him to create glorious miracles in your world

Course Requirements:

NOTE: Save your answers into a digital document to be emailed to your instructor. Use Microsoft Word, Google Docs, any other word processor or even just save it as an email draft or in the Notes application of your mobile device. Handwritten work will be not be accepted without prior approval from your instructor.

1. Listen to or watch all How to Walk by the Spirit teaching sessions as assigned.
2. Read and complete the entire text How to Walk by the Spirit as instructed. Answer all questions and complete all journaling exercises as computer files that can be emailed to your instructor. These will be submitted to your instructor in Lesson 12.
3. Complete the entire text Intimacy with the Holy Spirit as assigned. (Write your answers as computer files.) This book will guide you in meditating on and journaling about a multitude of verses about the Holy Spirit, with the goal that you will come to know Him better as a Person and develop a deep, intimate relationship with Him. The “Epilogue” directs you in summarizing your journaling and experience through the text. Your responses to the biblical meditations throughout the book as well as the “Epilogue” questions will be submitted to your instructor in Lesson 12.
4. Earn at least a “B” on both tests (not Self-Tests).
5. Submit a paper discussing what you have learned about walking in the Spirit through this course. Follow the instructions given in Chapter 18 of How to Walk by the Spirit. This paper is to be a minimum of 5 pages and will be submitted to your instructor in the Final Lesson.

Standards for Grading Assignments

As indicated below, “C” or 2.0 level work is considered average. **Leaders are not average people.** You are therefore expected (required) to put forth the effort necessary to demonstrate at least “B” (3.0) level work or higher on all assignments which you submit. Any which do not will be returned to you with input from your instructor on how you can raise your grade to the expected level. **A course grade will not be given until your assignments demonstrate that you have understood the material presented in the course and allowed your life to be transformed by the Spirit and the Word studied** — the requirements for attaining a “B”.

Your individual assignments (notebooks, tests, reports) will be graded according to the following standards. These grades will be averaged together to determine your course grade. Remember, we are training leaders and leaders are above-average people. Your work will reflect that.

- “D”
 - Indicates barely passing work that is inferior to the average both in quantity and in quality.
 - Manifests a lack of initiative or sense of responsibility or both.
- “C”
 - Average work; either steady work of an acceptable quality, or work of a high quality which is uneven, irregular or fragmentary.
 - May be mechanically or outwardly correct but shows little reflection upon or personal assimilation of the material.
- “B”
 - Intelligently has fulfilled the requirements of this course.
 - Understands the subject matter presented and has applied it to his life in a limited manner but has not really made the truths his own.
- “A”
 - Grasped the material with thoroughness, industry and correctness of detail.
 - Made the material his own by thinking about it and integrating it, using originality, natural ability, and insight.

Lesson One

Assignment to be completed:

NOTE: Save your answers into a digital document to be emailed to your instructor. Use Microsoft Word, Google Docs, any other word processor or even just save it as an email draft or in the Notes application of your mobile device. Handwritten work will be not be accepted without prior approval from your instructor.

Listen to or watch Teaching Session 1, taking notes.

Read the Introduction to ***How to Walk by the Spirit*** through page ix “Four Keys to Hearing God’s Voice.”

Prayerfully read the Foreword and Sections 1, 2 and 3 of ***Intimacy with the Holy Spirit***.

Memorize Proverbs 4:23.

Complete and correct the Self-Test. The purpose of these self-tests is to clarify and reinforce the objectives of each lesson, assuring that you have discovered all the required information. These Self-Tests may be taken with open book, if necessary.

Subjects to be explored:

- The Vision of Spiritual Intimacy

Related objectives:

- You will quote Proverbs 4:23 – “Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.”
 - You will discuss the differences between biblical meditation and simple “study.”
 - You will list the seven steps of biblical meditation.
 - You will discuss the biblical meaning of meditation.
 - You will state the four keys to hearing God’s voice.
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Self-Test

NOTE: *These Self-Tests are designed to clarify and reinforce the lesson objectives. They may be done with open book, if necessary.*

1. Quote Proverbs 4:23.
2. Indicate whether each of the following is a characteristic of study (S) or meditation (M).
 whole-brain
 reliance on reason and analysis only
 independence
 teachable attitude
 focused purpose
 includes flowing pictures, music and speech
 left-brain only
 pre-conceived attitude
 read quickly

3. Complete the following prayers of biblical meditation.

Lord, _____ me by your blood.

Lord, grant me a _____ attitude.

Lord, I will not use my faculties _____.

Lord, I pray that the _____ of my heart might be enlightened.

Lord, I present the abilities to _____ and to _____ to You to fill and flow through by your Spirit.

Lord, show me the _____ to the problem I am facing.

Thank you, Lord, for what you have _____ me.

4. Select all of the following that are included in the biblical meaning of “meditation.”

- murmur
- talk to yourself
- preconception
- babbling (tongues)
- roar
- mourn
- music
- proof-texting
- independence
- study
- imagine
- pray
- reflect
- ponder

5. The four keys to hearing God's voice are: