

“Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.” (Phil 3:12, RSV)

Brief Outline

- A. The Holy spirit is at work to transform us and make us holy
- B. The gifts and charisms of the Spirit help us carry on the mission of Jesus.
- C. Trial and difficulties are a normal part of the Christian life cycle.
- D. Persevere in the life in the Spirit within the Body of Christ.

Questions to Consider:

1. What do you think holiness means in everyday life?
2. How is God calling you to be a “missionary” within your own family, parish and community?
3. What charisms might be involved in this mission?
4. How would you want to stay in touch with people in the Seminar after it ends?

Prayer: Come, true light. Come, eternal life. Come, hidden mystery... Come, light without sunset. Come, infallible hope of all who must be saved. Come, awakener of all who sleep. Come, resurrection of the dead.... Come, eternal joy. Come, incorruptible crown.... Come, my breath and my life. Come, consolation of my poor soul. Come, my joy, my glory, my delight forever.” (Simeon the New Theologian, Hymns, 949-1022)

Study: This week the two chapters we will read are about the resurrection of Jesus and our resurrection. **John 20, Revelation 21**

Daily Words of Life

Day 1 - The Holy Spirit is at work in you. He wants to change you, to give you a better life, to make you holier. You can rely on him and his work in your life. Jesus did not leave you on your own to work things out. God's word promises:

It is God, for his own loving purpose, who puts both the will and the action into you. (Phil 2:13, JB)

Day 2 - Never let this truth dim in your mind: there is nothing as worthwhile as knowing Christ and belonging to him. Your greatest treasure is the life you have in Christ. Give up everything to keep that life and grow in it. God's word says:

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. (Phil 3:8-9, JB)

Day 3 - Sometimes you will run into trials. Friends will misunderstand you, your family may try to make you give up, you will experience doubts, fears, confusion. But all these things can be means of growth and change for the better if you go through them in faith. God's word promises:

My brothers, you will always have your trials, but when they come try to treat them as a happy privilege; you understand that your faith is only put to the test to make you patient, but patience too is to have its practical results so that you will become fully-developed, complete, with nothing missing. (Jas 1:2-4, JB)



WEEK 7

Transformation in Christ

Day 4 - God is with you. Never forget that. He loves you and is with you and will never desert you. No matter what trial you have to face, the LORD WHO LOVES YOU IS WITH YOU. God's word promises:

The trials that you have had to bear are no more than people normally have. You can trust God not to let you be tried beyond your strength, and with any trial he will give you a way out of it and the strength to bear it. (1 Cor 10:13, JB)

Day 5 - If you are faithful to God and love him, everything will work out to your good. There is nothing that will happen to you that will not be a source of deeper and better life to you. The Lord brings good out of evil. His word promises:

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those he has called according to his purpose. (Rom 8:28, JB)

Day 6 - You cannot be fully united to Christ without being united to the body of Christ. If you love Christ, love his body, love those who belong to him. If you want to belong to Christ, join yourself to his body, stay close to other Christians. God's word says:

Just as each of our bodies that has several parts and each part has a separate function, so all of us, in union with Christ, form one body, and as parts of it we belong to each other. (Rom 12:4-5, JB)

Day 7 - Jesus will work in your life through the Church and through other Christians. He wants you to take a care for the life of the Christian community and for helping other Christians. Be faithful to the meetings of the Christians who have helped you find new life in the Spirit. God's word says:

Let us be concerned for each other, to stir a response in love and good works. Do not stray away from the meetings of the community, as some do, but encourage each other to go. (Heb 10:24-25, JB)



Resources:
<p>Songs: Lord I Need You by Matt Maher: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LuvfMDhTyMA</p> <p>No Longer Slaves by Bethel Music, Jonathan David & Melissa Helser: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f8tkUMJtK5k</p> <p>Set A Fire by Jesus Culture: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Jzaq4B8H2Q&t=41s</p>
<p>Books: <i>Charismatic Spirituality</i> by Stephen B. Clark <i>Discover Christ</i> by Dave Nadar and Bert Ghezzi (Christ Life) <i>Called and Gifted For the Third Millennium</i> by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 1995 <i>Sharing the Faith That You Love: Four Simple Ways to Be Part of the New Evangelization</i> by Joh and Therese Boucher</p>
<p>Talks from the Pentecostal Renewal version of Life in the Spirit are on our website at: https://www.stmva.org/liis.html (Talk 7:)Transformation In Christ</p>
<p>Helpful Passages</p>
<p>John 20, Revelation 21, Phil 2:13, JB, Phil 3:8-9, JB, Jas 1:2-4, JB, 1 Cor 10:13, JB, Rom 8:28, JB, Rom 12:4-5, JB, Heb 10:24-25, JB</p>