

"Being led by the Holy Spirit in Ministry" **by Pastor Rob Gulliver**

Perhaps, the first reaction when one sees the area I desire to facilitate in, is a given. What do I mean? Scripturally, we know that no one comes to that place of a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as active Lord and Savior unless the Holy Spirit draws them (John 16:7-11). In other words, it is impossible to be a believer, a Christian, without the working of the Holy Spirit in one's life, which means that all believers have the Holy Spirit. But here-in lies the problem.

How much of the Holy Spirit has you?

It was the great preacher, teacher and author A. W. Tozer who addressed this so profoundly when he said the following: *"Though every believer has the Holy Spirit, how much of every believer does the Holy Spirit have?"* A penetrating question we must answer. Here is one more quote by A. W. Tozer that really brings it home, *"If the Holy Spirit was withdrawn from the church today, 95 percent of what we do would go on and no one would know the difference. If the Holy Spirit had been withdrawn from the NT church (in Acts), 95 percent of what they did would stop, and everybody would know the difference."*

He was not wrong when he said these words over 50 years ago and they certainly apply to the church today. If there was ever a time that we need to see the renewing power of the Holy Spirit in our midst - now is that time! Far too many churches are closing their doors. Far too many churches are going through the motions with little to no results when it comes to new believers and changed lives. Far too many churches have become cold, if not dead, with no evangelistic push whatsoever. This is what we are currently facing within the Body of Christ in Canada. In other words - we are in deep trouble!

Is the Spirit Invited into your Ministry?

Now for some good news! God the Father, said through God the Son, that He would build His church (Matthew 16:18) and the gates of hell itself would not overcome it. That's us! We are His church but as Jesus clearly said in John 14, 15 and 16, this would come about through God the Holy Spirit working in us, through us and with us. It doesn't get any better than that! Are we asking the Holy Spirit to lead us? Are we inviting Him into every area of our lives and ministry? If not - why aren't we? Perhaps it

is fear of the unknown or teachings against the Holy Spirit (Cessationists) or perhaps seen/experienced abuses regarding the manifestations of the Holy Spirit.

Want More?

This is what I desire to address as an Enrichment Facilitator regarding "*Being Led by the Holy Spirit in Ministry.*" I will do this from two fronts. Firstly, my own journey and testimony of 38+ years as a pastor who has encountered and experienced much regarding the person, the presence and the power of the Holy Spirit. Secondly, from Scripture as His Word teaches us much about who the Holy Spirit is and what His role is for us today as fully devoted followers of Christ. I recommend reading of the Book of Acts once again. From this, one can receive a fresh perspective on the working of the Holy Spirit as the early church was birthed and then spread quickly throughout the then-known world. The very words of Jesus add to the working of the Holy Spirit as he taught the disciples in John 14-16. This in-depth teaching lays the foundation of who the Holy Spirit is and what He was sent to earth to accomplish for God's kingdom work.

Humbly in Him,
Doctor Rob
Gulliver.