

A photograph of a sailboat on the ocean at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow and reflecting on the water. The sky is a mix of blue and orange. The sailboat's mast and rigging are visible in the foreground. The text 'Life in the Spirit!' is overlaid in a large, white, serif font.

Life in the Spirit!

Experiencing the Fullness of Christ

#10 The Instruction of the Spirit

Life
in the
Spirit!

The
Instruction
of
the Spirit

Section 2: Christian Growth



Session
#10

A) The Need for the Spirit's Revealing (John 16:13-15)

“13 But **when He, the Spirit of truth, comes**, He **will** guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak...” (John 16:13-15).

- “**Spirit of truth**” describes the Spirit by associating Him with truth, almost like a name, Spirit Truth.
- “**Comes**” refers to the filling of the Spirit in His people starting at Acts 2. This is startling new for them.
- “**Will**” describes how believers will be shaped by the Spirit's teaching ministry.

**Filling of
Believers**

“**He, the Spirit
of truth**”

A) The Need for the Spirit's Revealing (John 16:13-15)

“13 But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, **He will guide you into all the truth**; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, **He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come** 14 **He shall glorify Me**; for He shall take of Mine, and shall disclose it to you. 15 All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said, that He takes of Mine, and will disclose it to you” (John 16:13-15).

- (1) “**Guide you** into all the truth”: He strategically leads us into knowing the truth—not instantaneous but as a path of learning.
- (2) “**He will speak; and He will disclose** to you”
Timely passes on all the knowledge we need.
(Faith building truth!)
- (3) “He **shall glorify Me**” (see diagram)



Spiritual transformation requires a reordering of one's decisions in light of new insights the Spirit brings to our attention from God's Word.

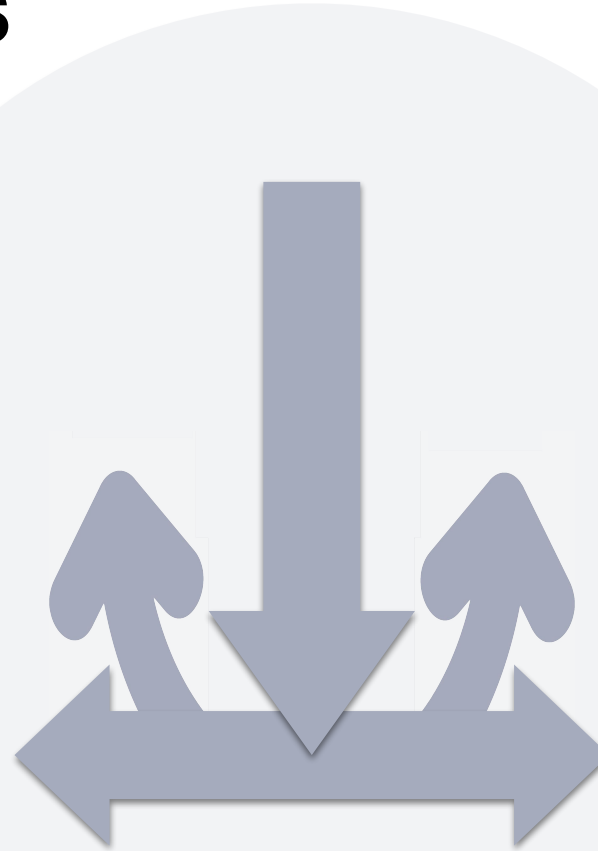
A) The Need for the Spirit's Revealing (John 16:13-15)

Filling of Believers

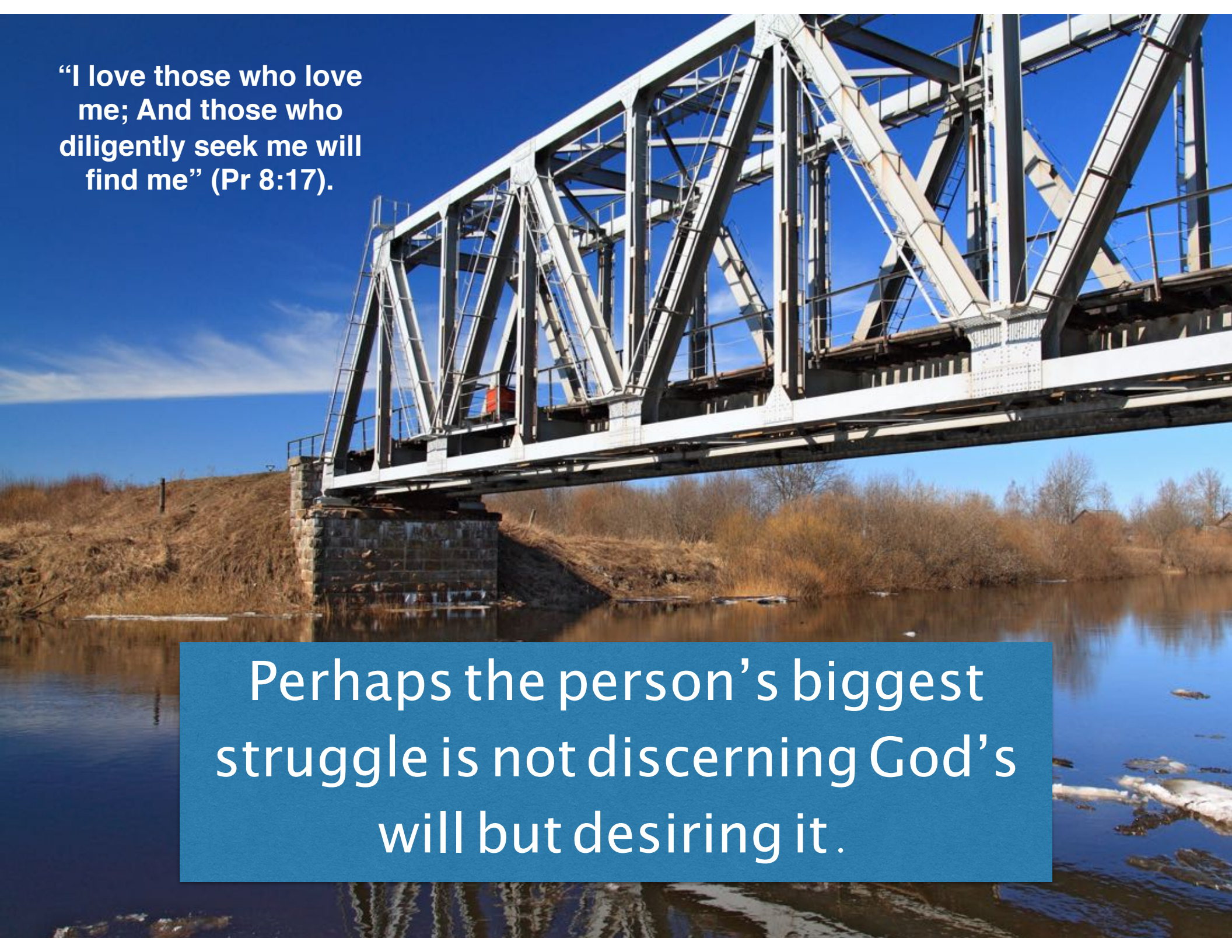
God continues to indwell in all of His children, empowering and enabling them, sin aside, to regularly commune with Him in prayer.

Instruction of Believers

God desires to regularly direct and inform His people so that they know His will and appropriately, in faith, do His will through His strength and for His glory.



Note on Upper
Room Discourse

A large steel truss bridge spans a river. The bridge is made of white-painted steel beams and is supported by a stone pier on the left. The river is calm, reflecting the bridge and the sky. The banks are covered in dry, brown grass and some bare trees. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

“I love those who love me; And those who diligently seek me will find me” (Pr 8:17).

Perhaps the person’s biggest struggle is not discerning God’s will but desiring it.

B) The Holy Spirit's Personal Presence (John 14:26)

“But the **Helper, the Holy Spirit**, whom the Father **will send in My name**, He **will teach** you **all things**, and **bring to your remembrance** all that I said to you” (John 14:26).

- “The Helper, the Holy Spirit” (Grk. *parakletos*): Counselor, comes alongside of; Comforter. We need Him!
- “The Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send by My name” (Acts 2). Jesus says, “I will ask the Father, and He will give you **another Helper**, that He may be with you forever” (Jn 14:16; Mat 28:20).
- “All things” includes our calling, needs and gifting which shapes how the Holy Spirit personally teaches us.
- The twofold teaching ministry of the Holy Spirit:
 - New truths: “He will teach”
 - Old truths: “Bring to your remembrance”

B) The Holy Spirit's Personal Presence (John 14:26)

The
Instruction
of
the Spirit

IMPOSSIBLE!

CONFUSION

Old truths:
"Bring to your remembrance"

"I told him I only have enough to get there to India but not back. I believe God will raise the money. But I was not prepared for this \$8,000 budget." (2004 journal)

"You give them something to eat!" (Lu 9:13)
"What do you have?" (Mk 6:38)

C) Teaching us in Our Special Needs (Lu 12:12)

“And I say to you, **My friends, do not be afraid** of those who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do” (Lu 12:4).

“And when they bring you before the synagogues and the rulers and the authorities, do not become anxious about how or what you should speak in your defense, or what you should say; 12 For **the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour** what you ought to say” (Lu 12:11-12).

- “**My friends, do not be afraid**” (Lu 12:4) speaks of facing dangers.
- “**The Holy Spirit will teach you**” reveals how Jesus brings special comfort to any Christian under persecution (Lu 12:10-12)– Stephen.
“You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much tribulation with the joy of the Holy Spirit” (1 Th 1:6).
- “**Teach you**” states how the Holy Spirit purposely changes our priorities and commitments—in this case to be a faithful witness.
- “**In that very hour what you ought to say**” speaks of the **timeliness** and **appropriateness** of the Spirit’s help.

The Holy Spirit passes on Jesus’ comfort and wisdom by timely bringing to our minds what we need to know.

Final Application

1) The Spirit is teaching!

Are you learning?

2) The Spirit is by our side (Paraclete)!

Do you have peace?

3) The Spirit is with us in emergencies!

Do you trust Him?

“But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all men generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him” (Jam 1:5).

What is Your Next Port?



Discussion Questions

- What kinds of things does God help us know? Please give an example how the Holy Spirit taught you.
- The truth of God is clearly important to living a strong Christian life. What are some ways you regularly bring His Truth into your mind so that the Holy Spirit can “remind” you?
- So how does the Holy Spirit practical teach and help us in our various ministries?

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