

Summary

- a) This session looks at your spirit-to-Spirit union with the indwelling Spirit, encouraging you to meditate often upon your spiritual union with Christ when you pray.
- b) This session also details how your spirit is now a partaker of the divine nature, for the tree of life, Jesus Christ, has been grafted to your spirit. As a result, you now have everything you need for life and godliness. This gives you the ability to be a fruitful branch, for His divine life can now flow through you like sap to produce the fruit of Christ.
- c) In addition, this session describes how you have access to the Father and the Son in heaven through your spirit-to-Spirit connection with the indwelling Spirit. This allows you to experience the depths of God.

One Spirit with the Holy Spirit

- a) Paul said, “The one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit with Him” (1 Cor. 6:17).
- b) When the truth revealed in this verse becomes your personal revelation, your life will be transformed.
- c) This means you can experience spiritual growth because the indwelling Spirit has been grafted to your spirit. Your life can be fruitful because the Spirit has been fastened to your spirit. You are connected to Christ the Vine through your spiritual union with the indwelling Spirit. This means you have a direct pipeline to His life.
- d) Plus, you are always connected to Him, whether you feel it or not. Therefore, you can know Him intimately, more deeply than you know anyone else.
- e) Your spirit-to-Spirit connection to the indwelling Spirit is the linchpin to producing Christlike fruit. As His divine life flows directly into your spirit, His life can then flow like sap into your heart, soul, and body, making you a fruitful branch.
- f) If you look at the previous verse (1 Cor. 6:16), Paul quoted the most famous marriage scripture in the Bible. Speaking of Adam and Eve in the garden, this verse states, “For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be *joined* to his wife; and they shall become one flesh” (Gen. 2:24, emphasis mine). He is setting the context to 1 Corinthians 6:17.
- g) Back to 1 Corinthians 6:17, the Greek word for join is *kollaō*, which means “to glue together, cement, fasten together.” It also conveys “to join or fasten firmly together; to join one’s self to, cleave to.”
- h) Just as marriage glues a man and a woman together for life, new birth glues your spirit to the Spirit of Christ. As a husband and wife are joined together in marriage, you were joined to Christ when you were born again.
- i) Imagine two separate pieces of construction paper. One of the pieces is coated with a liberal amount of glue, covering every square inch. When the two pieces are glued together, you can’t separate them without tearing both pieces. This is what marriage is like, when a man and a woman are glued together. This is also what new birth is like, when your spirit and the Spirit of Christ are glued together. You simply can’t be separated from Him.
- j) Paul is saying if you are born again, you are inseparably joined to the Lord. You are now one spirit with His Spirit.
- k) This means you are never far from God because He is closer than your skin.

- l) Just as a husband and wife are joined together as one flesh, you are joined together with your heavenly Bridegroom as one spirit. You can have a real, heart-satisfying, life-transforming relationship with Jesus all day every day. You can know Him intimately through the indwelling Spirit.
- m) Paul expressed a similar idea when he wrote, “Therefore, my brethren, you also were made to die to the Law through the body of Christ, so that you might be joined to another, to Him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit for God” (Rom. 7:4, emphasis mine).
- n) Because your spirit is joined to the indwelling Spirit, you can bear fruit for God. You can live the abiding life.

Meditate Upon Your Union with Christ

- a) Have you ever taken ten minutes to ponder your spirit-to-Spirit union with the Creator? Think about it. You are joined to the same Spirit who created the heavens and the earth (Col. 1:16).
- b) You are one with the same Spirit who shaped the massive, spinning, glowing sphere of hot gas we call the sun. You are inseparably connected to the same Spirit who created galaxies, including the Milky Way, consisting of about one hundred billion stars.
- c) You are fastened to the same Spirit who fashioned the snow-capped Mount Kilimanjaro, peaking at over 19,000 feet into the Tanzanian sky.
- d) The Spirit who created snow, rain, wind, the sky, oceans, rivers, mountains, and deserts has been grafted to your human spirit, making you one with God the Creator.
- e) I try my best to think of my union with the indwelling Spirit every day. This is by far the most important thing about me. Often, during prayer, the first thing I do is meditate upon my union with Christ. I remind myself:

I have been joined to Christ and I am one spirit with Him.

The indwelling Spirit, who raised Jesus from the dead, has been grafted to my spirit.

The Holy Spirit, the third Person of the Trinity, is fastened to my spirit.

I am inseparably connected to the same Spirit poured out in power on the Day of Pentecost—the One who still performs awe-inspiring miracles, raises the dead, and creates beauty out of ashes.

- f) Doing this focuses my thoughts upon Christ in me—the life source from which I need to live. It reorients my mind to Christ in me and my unbreakable connection to Him.
- g) Doing this shatters the lies of my emotions, which scream out with self-pity, You are far from God, even though He’s closer than my skin.
- h) I encourage you to think deeply and often about your spiritual union with Christ when you pray. It will definitely take your prayer life to new heights.

Christ Grafted into You

- a) “We have become united with Him in the likeness of His death,” wrote Paul. And “we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection” (Rom. 6:5).
- b) This verse is rich and demands we linger here for a moment to capture the depth of what Paul said.

- c) The Greek word for *united* is *symphytos* and means “born together with, of joint origin, connate, congenital, innate, implanted by birth or nature, grown together, united with, kindred.”
- d) This Greek word is derived from *sumphuo*, which means “to make to grow together,” and thus has the meaning of being planted together and growing along with.
- e) If you take some of the definitions of *symphytos* and substitute it for united, here’s what this means to you.
 - You have been born together with Christ.
 - You are growing together with Christ.
 - You are of joint origin with Christ.
 - You have Christ’s nature implanted by new birth into you.
 - His divine nature is an innate part of your spirit.
- f) As this verse and these definitions convey, your spirit has become a partaker of the divine nature.
- g) The Son of God’s very own traits and characteristics have been ingrafted into your spirit at new birth.
- h) Therefore, inherent within your new spirit is Christ’s victory over death, hell, the powers of darkness, the world, and the flesh.
- i) Both His indestructible life and impeccable righteousness have been imparted to your spirit through your union with the Holy Spirit.
- j) You can now experience spiritual growth because the Spirit has been grafted to your spirit.
- k) You can now live the abiding life because the life of Christ abides in you.

The Tree of Life Grafted into You

- a) In classical Greek, *sumphutos* means “grafted.”
- b) Suppose a gardener had many acres of land with hundreds of apple trees. In this orchard, there was one tree that produced the most luscious, juicy apples. All the other apple trees only produced rotten fruit. Rather than cutting down the diseased trees, the gardener decided to graft shoots from the good tree into the spoiled ones. Making incisions in the corrupted trees, he inserted shoots from the fruitful one. Then he sealed and secured each area where the two shoots were joined together. Eventually, the rotten trees produced succulent fruit.
- c) Simply joining a fruitful shoot to a diseased shoot, the gardener reproduced and multiplied the fruitful tree in an orchard of rotten trees. This is exactly what the Father has done to His children through the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- d) In the orchard of this world, there are billions of rotten trees, those of the old Adamic creation. These defiled and spoiled trees can only produce rotten apples—a direct cause of the first sin that has infected every human since with the virus of sin, selfishness, and death.
- e) Apart from Christ, we can only produce rotten apples—sinful fruit, unpleasing to God.
- f) Rather than throwing us into the fire and doing away with us, God does the most gracious thing He can. He implants the very nature of His Son into our spirits.

- g) Our Father, the expert gardener, has taken shoots from the tree of life and grafted these into millions of rotten trees. Now the eternal Son's life has been implanted into the spirits of millions of believers, giving us the ability produce the beautiful fruit of Christ.

You Have Everything You Need

- a) When you were born again, Christ's indestructible life was inseparably joined to your spirit, raising it from death and infusing you with His perfect righteousness (see Rom. 8:10).
- b) From this point on, you no longer have to produce rotten apples of sin from the Adamic nature. You now have the innate potential to bear luscious fruit, for the tree of life has been grafted into your spirit.
- c) Christ's very own untainted, miracle-working, dead-raising life has been implanted into your spirit by the Holy Spirit.
- d) Everything you need is now grafted into you.
- Life you did not possess is now grafted into you.
 - Righteousness you did not possess is now grafted into you.
 - Holiness you did not possess is now grafted into you.
 - Victory you did not possess is now grafted into you.
 - A divine nature you did not possess is now grafted into you.
 - The very life of Jesus Christ, which produces His love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, meekness, faith, and self-control, has now been grafted to your human spirit (see Gal. 5:22-23).
- e) Because your spirit is joined to the Holy Spirit, you are the branch Jesus described in the parable of the vine and branches. You are now connected to Jesus the Vine through your spirit-to-Spirit connection with the indwelling Spirit.
- f) This means you don't have to struggle to abide in Christ. You don't have to strive to be connected to Christ. You don't have to strain to have intimacy with Him. At new birth, your spirit was fastened to Christ the Vine by the indwelling Spirit.
- g) So many Christians strive and struggle to connect themselves to Christ without realizing they were connected to Him the moment they were born again.
- h) The key to the abiding life, therefore, is having a revelation you are already united, joined, and connected to Christ's Spirit.
- i) Because your spirit is one with the indwelling Spirit, you already have everything you need to abide in Christ, for you are already connected to Him just like a branch is connected to a vine.
- j) This means you don't have to struggle or strive to produce fruit. You simply have to know by revelation you are already connected to Christ and to then let Him live through you.

The Sap Producing Fruit

- a) The indwelling Spirit's divine life flows like sap through you to produce luscious, beautiful, and savory fruit.

- b) Just as sap is the lifeblood of a tree or plant—carrying vital nutrients and minerals from the root or vine outward to the branches to produce leaves or fruit—the life-giving Spirit, grafted to your spirit, releases divine life to produce the fruit of Christ in you and through you.
- c) Jesus said, “Apart from Me you can do nothing” (John 15:5). You can never produce the fruit of Christ in your strength. Human compassion, tranquility, happiness, and discipline are fragile substitutes for the Spirit’s fruit of love, peace, joy, and self-control.
- d) “Not by might nor by power,” the Lord prophesied through Zechariah, “But by My Spirit” (Zech. 4:6).
- e) Only the indwelling Spirit can release His life, like sap, to produce His fruit in you and through you.
- f) If you try to produce the fruit of Christ by working harder, trying harder, toiling, and sweating to be good and do good, you will eventually burn out. The branch does not make grapes; the sap does.
- g) No branch is able to bear fruit if not connected to the life source of the vine. The branch lives by drawing life from the vine. This life is the sap flowing from the vine into the branches to produce fruit.
- h) As the sap flows from vine to branch, the sap does not change its nature. The sap is the same life-giving force, reproducing according to its nature.
- i) The branch, as it remains connected to the vine—not toiling, spinning, or striving but resting, relaxing, and abiding—draws out and relies upon the sap of divine life to produce the beautiful fruit of the Spirit (see Gal. 5:22-23).
- j) Jesus, as the vine, is the life source supplying the sap of His divine life to you, the branch, so fruit can be produced. The vine doesn’t produce fruit. The branches do, but only if they are connected to the vine and only if there are no hinderances (which will we discuss in the next session) blocking the sap from flowing freely. Otherwise, the branches are useless.
- k) As a branch, you are meant to live by drawing from the life source of Christ, grafted to your human spirit through the Holy Spirit, to produce the fruit of His nature and likeness.
- l) As a branch, you are already connected to Christ the Vine through your union with the Spirit.
- m) This enables you to produce the fruit of the Spirit in an ever-increasing measure until you produce much fruit and fruit that remains.

Your Connection to the Father and the Son

- a) Just as a baby is connected to its mother through the umbilical cord, you are connected to Jesus Christ and the Father in heaven, through your vital life union with the indwelling Spirit.
- b) Paul wrote, “For through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father” (Eph. 2:18).
- c) Not only is the Spirit closer than your skin, but we also have direct access to the Father and the Son, who are enthroned in heaven.
- d) Through your spirit’s inseparable union with the indwelling Spirit, you have spiritual access to the heavenly throne room described in Revelation 4.
- e) You have spiritual access to the Godhead, who dwells in breathtaking beauty and is worshiped in ceaseless adoration by the angels, who cry out “holy, holy, holy is the Lord God, the Almighty” (Rev. 4:8).
- f) Drawing from Isaiah 64:4, Paul said, “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him” (1 Cor. 2:9-13 NKJV).

- g) Many read this and think, These things are reserved for the eternal ages, when we are with Christ and see Him face to face in heaven. But until then, I can't fathom all God has prepared for me. I can only imagine what is to come.
- h) The only problem is Paul didn't say that. This is just the murmuring of unbelieving hearts. Rather, Paul declared you can know these things right now, on earth, before the eternal ages commence.
- i) Paul specifically said, "But God has revealed them [the things eye hasn't seen and ear hasn't heard] to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God" (1 Cor. 2:10 NKJV).
- j) Going further, Paul said, "We have received . . . the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely give to us by God" (1 Cor. 2:12 NKJV).

Access to the Depths of God

- a) As these verses state, you have access to the depths of God through the indwelling Spirit.
- b) You can know the deep mysteries in the Father's and Son's hearts.
- c) In your spirit, you can intuitively know what's on the mind and heart of Almighty God.
- d) With your spirit, you can sense the burden of the Lord, pulsating and beating within Him.
- e) Underscoring what's already been stated, Paul, referring to things the eye hasn't seen and ear hasn't heard, wrote that "we also speak not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words" (1 Cor. 2:13).
- f) The last phrase is better translated *joining spiritual to spiritual*.
- g) The indwelling Spirit teaches you the deep things in God's heart and reveals them to you through your spirit-to-Spirit connection with Him.
- h) He transmits this revelation directly to your spirit, causing you to intuitively know the mysteries, passions, and burdens in God's heart.
- i) Following this, your spirit instantly communicates this revelation to your soul through spiritual thoughts, enabling your mind to possess spiritual understanding and wisdom.
- j) You have an umbilical-chord-like connection with the Father and Son in heaven, giving you the ability to know God intuitively in a deep and intimate way.

Application

- a) Spend some time in prayer meditating upon your spirit-to-Spirit union with Christ. Say out loud or write in a notebook the following:

I have been joined to Christ and I am one spirit with Him.

The indwelling Spirit, who raised Jesus from the dead, has been grafted to my spirit.

The Holy Spirit, the third Person of the Trinity, is fastened to my spirit.

I am inseparably connected to the same Spirit poured out in power on the Day of Pentecost—the One who still performs awe-inspiring miracles, raises the dead, and creates beauty out of ashes.

- b) In prayer, say out loud or write down in a notebook, the following:

I have been born together with Christ.

I am growing together with Christ.

I am of joint origin with Christ.

I have Christ's nature implanted by new birth into me.

Christ's divine nature is now an innate part of my spirit.

c) In prayer, say out loud or write down in a notebook, the following:

Life I did not possess is now grafted into me.

Righteousness I did not possess is now grafted into me.

Holiness I did not possess is now grafted into me.

Victory I did not possess is now grafted into me.

A divine nature I did not possess is now grafted into me.

The very life of Jesus Christ, which produces His love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, meekness, faith, and self-control, has now been grafted to my human spirit (see Gal. 5:22-23).

d) In prayer, begin cultivating your access to the Father and the Son in the heavenly throne room. Ask Him to bring you spiritually into heaven's throne room through your spirit-to-Spirit union with the indwelling Spirit. Ask the Lord to reveal the deep things in His heart to your spirit, including His mysteries, passions, and burdens. Write down what He reveals to you.