

Church of the Promise

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Infusion

Become

Believe

Belong

Befriend

#2 Matter of Birth

INFUSING THE LIFE FOUND IN CHRIST
THROUGH FAITH IN GOD'S VITAL PRECEPTS,
MAKING EVERY MEMBER WHOLE
SPIRIT, SOUL & BODY

Matter of Birth

Session Two



I. A Matter of Birth or Adoption?

- a. There are many religions in the world but only one has a God who died for you. Others require you to die for them. Only one transforms your life by infusion of the Holy Spirit.

John 1:11, 12

“He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.”

In this passage the two requirements for becoming a child of God are to _____ and _____.

The only entrance to **EARTH LIFE** is by **NATURAL BIRTH**:

The only entrance to **SPIRITUAL LIFE** is by **SPIRITUAL BIRTH**:

Becoming a Christian is a matter of _____.

Being a Christian is a matter of _____.

- b. **New Birth**, getting Saved, Born Again, Encounter with Christ – What ever words you use to describe it, it is an EXPERIENCE! The very instant you _____ Christ, the life and nature of God gives life to your spirit. You were recreated – born again! In the sight of God all sin and every vestige of your past life was blotted out. All you had been ceased to exist and you became a new creation, a new human being in Christ Jesus.

Titus 3:3-5:

3. At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated

and hating one another.

4. But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared,

5. he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,

6. whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior,

7. so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

2 Corinthians 5:17:

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

John 3:6:

Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

- c. **Physically, we are born of human parents, and we partake of their human nature.** Spiritually, we are born of God, and we partake of His nature. The moment you accept Jesus Christ as your Savior and confess from your heart that He is your Lord, you are born again. At that moment the Redemption that Jesus provided for you 2000 years ago becomes a reality to you. The very Life and Nature of God is imparted into your spirit. In **Genesis 2:7**, "God breathed the breath of life into Adam and he became a living soul." In **John 20:22** Jesus said "...as the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that He breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit..."
- d. **Before being born again,** you are what the Bible calls a natural being, consisting of spirit, soul and body, but your spirit is dead in trespasses and sin. Now the power of the Holy Spirit causes your spirit to become alive to God. In other words the very life of God enters into your spirit making it alive. All things inside became new and you passed from _____ to _____. Jesus offers a New Birth, giving each of us the incomparable opportunity to have God's image and likeness renewed in us.

Romans 8:10:

And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the spirit is life because of righteousness.

Ephesians 2:1:

Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. (NLT)

Ephesians 2:5:

made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions--it is by grace you have been saved (KJV).

1 John 3:1:

We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death. (NIV)

- e. **Before being born again**, you are a citizen of the Kingdom of _____ following its mandates which are abhorrent to God.
- f. **The first man Adam was created in God's image with a will, the power of choice, and the ability to choose.** His transgression was done in the light of absolute knowledge. He was _____ by Satan. He understood the steps that led to the crime. **1 Timothy 2:3, 14.** Satan desired to bring Spiritual death in the life of man because of his bitter hatred toward God. Knowing what man meant to the Father, Satan's objective has been to separate the union between God and man and bring man under bondage to himself and to destruction. When Satan tempted Adam and Eve, they chose to believe that Satan was right. They chose to disobey God's way and this disobedience was sin. When they sinned, they died spiritually. It was 930 years later when Adam died physically because his body had become mortal, that is doomed to die.
- g. **Spiritual death** occurred when Adam's spirit was separated from the Spirit of God. And since Adam and Eve were spiritually dead, all of their children were born subject to the same condition. You are one of their kids. First spiritual death came and then physical death. Spiritual death is not a state of non-existence; it is a

condition of separation from God and in union with Satan. **Romans 5:12**, "sin entered by one man, Adam, and death by sin." Sin, as well as death is universal!

Romans 5:12

Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned.

- h. Just as sin**, entering the mind of Lucifer caused his fall, sin entering man caused man's fall. Even in his fallen state as a sinner, man was still the choicest of God's creation and the chief object of His love. Fallen, but not beyond HOPE! Two Reasons:

FIRST, man had not invented sin. His fall wasn't from a desire completely his own as Lucifer's was, but by temptation of Satan. **Gen.3:1-6**.

SECOND, even though man committed sin, he did not identify with sin, but fled from it as something foreign to his nature. Man was NOT a devil. He could feel what sin was doing to him and made efforts to get away from it. **Gen.3:7-10; 19**.

Now Christ offers to restore spiritual life to us. With our spirit reborn and growing in Him we become a complete three part being once again; Spirit, Soul and Body.

- i. In John chapter 3** Jesus asked Nicodemus a question that He knew he couldn't answer. He wanted Nicodemus to recognize his spiritual condition.

John 3:10

"You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? (NIV)

Jesus is causing a spiritually blind man to recognize that he can not see spiritual things. Because you were spiritually dead you were unable to receive or understand the spiritual truths of God. Scripture says Satan had us _____.

Ephesians 2:2

wherein ye once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the powers of the air, of the spirit that now worketh in the sons of disobedience ;(KJV)

John 12:40

"He has blinded their eyes and deadened their hearts, so they can neither see with their eyes, nor understand with their hearts, nor turn--and I would heal them."(NIV)

2 Corinthians 4:4

In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should not dawn upon them.(A.S)

- j. Now Jesus goes on to tell him** who He is, what He knows, and how God will change things through Him.

John 3:11-12

I tell you the truth, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony.

12. I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? (NIV)

- k. He was saying** that Nicodemus had only seen things on earth and only understood the physical realm. But Jesus was divine and had been in heaven and could share spiritual truths; if Nicodemus would not believe Jesus about Natural things how would he understand him in Spiritual things?

The answer to Jesus' question was, you can not because your spirit is dead, but God has a plan to change that if you will receive it

John 3: 13-15

13. No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven--the Son of Man.

14. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up,

15. That everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. (NIV)

1. We know how Christ went to the cross, died, was buried and rose again. And this is the plan that would make it possible for your spirit to be re-born.

YOUR CONDITION AFTER THE NEW BIRTH.

Answer the following T-True, F-False.

T F 1. Receiving Christ and being born again are two ways of saying the same thing. (*John 1:11-13*)

T F 2. The New birth is one way of being part of God's kingdom but not necessary. (*John 3:3-7*).

T F 3. At the moment you are born again you have passed from death to life. (*John 5:24*)

The Big Picture

I. Man had a problem

According to scripture _____ are guilty.

Romans 3:12

All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one."

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Sin cost us our _____.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

II. God had a plan

He sent His Son to make a way for us to have life again.

John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Romans 5:8

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

1 Peter 2:24

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

1 Peter 3:18

For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit,

III. Man's response

If we believe in our heart and _____ with our mouth that Jesus is _____, we shall be saved.

Romans 10:8-10

8. *But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart, "that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming:*

9. *That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.*

10. *For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. (NIV)*

IV. God's Answer

No one can _____ you.

Romans 8:1, 2

1. *Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,*

2. *Because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. (NIV)*

(Simple Object Lesson):



Our new spirit is similar to the physical property of this glass. It is clear just as our spirit is pure and clean. It has no sin and is free from the effects of sin. The glass itself will stay transparent even if something sticks to its surface. What can and does commonly happen is Christians fall into a very subtle deception. Because

the flesh is not yet changed; it is still weak and must be transformed. This transformation is a growth process known as sanctification. To sanctify something is to separate it for a specific purpose. A healthy Christian's mind and body are daily being renewed through the word. We will cover this subject in more detail in following chapters. The deception is that the weakness of the flesh becomes evident; the sin seems to be through and through. Soon the unsuspecting Christian forgets their spirit has been brought back to life and their flesh will be made new in the resurrection. They can succumb to living under the law and the bondage it brings. So for now we must learn to rule our minds and bodies through the **New Creation, New Man, Inner Being, or Spirit man**. All these terms are used in scripture to describe your spirit that was made righteous when you were born again. Without this knowledge when a Christian is convicted of known sin they can easily believe that they are destined for Hell, because sin has not let go of them or it has regained control. The weakness of their flesh has not been dealt with by the power of the spirit and faith in the Word to change the attitudes of their minds. When a person in this condition looks at his condition in light of the commandments, they believe they are condemned. The deception is that they cannot see themselves anymore as being righteous in Christ because the enemy has them focused on the flesh.



In this picture, the clear glass is covered with mud. The properties of the glass did not change. It is simply coated on the outside. All that needs to happen is that it be washed. It is the same with a Christian who is under condemnation. They simply need to be washed with the renewing power of the Word. As we come into agreement with the

principles of the Bible, it will wash away the attitudes we have that prompt us to be sinful.

Now you need to know that God is not partial to one person or another. Everyone has equal opportunity.

Romans 3:22

This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, (NIV)

Exercise:

1. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you full understanding of the three part being and the New Birth.
2. What will walking in the spirit do for you?
3. Share your understanding with your group leader and after that with any one who will listen.
4. Practice teaching someone else about the saving knowledge of Christ.
5. Write a salvation prayer for someone who needs the Lord.

THIS WEEK'S BIBLE READING: Matthew 14-28

Use the Epistles Bible Study tool as you read. The next session will come from a portion of this book. Return your completed form for credit. You will get much more from the time if you prepare in advance by reading prayerfully through the assignment:

ANSWERS:

- Pg. 2** Receive, believe, receiving, believing, receive
Pg. 3 Death, life
Pg. 4 darkness, no deceived
Pg. 5 Blinded
Pg. 7 T, F, T, all, life
Pg. 8 Confess, Lord, condemn