



SPG SERIES - Study 1

Why Live By the Spirit

Adventure Breakout is living an adventurous life in the Spirit of God.

The life in the Spirit:

“those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what the nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.

Rom. 8:5

“live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature”

Gal. 5:16

“I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do... as it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me.

Rom. 7:15,17

Our dilemma is that we want to live by the Spirit, but we have sin living in us. The sin in us is our sinful nature and sin acted out in our lives that is not confessed and not repented of. We must come to the realization that as long as we are treasuring sin and allowing sin to reign in our lives from our wounds, sin patterns and wrong loves, it will compromise our living in the Spirit. If we have a true passion to live by the Spirit, then we will also have a passion to eliminate all sin by the power of God. Therefore, is my only passion to live by the Spirit? We must make it our only aim in life to live according to the Spirit.

Each day of our lives is to be a living portrait of loving the Lord with all of our heart, listening and responding to the Spirit from the first thing, throughout, and to the end of the day. The Spirit of God will intervene throughout the day in doing great and mighty things in you, for you, and through you. The Spirit will surprise you with adding things to your day that you didn't anticipate, adding to how you do it or the way you do it. What a beautiful thing, to watch how He will jump into your day and you respond. Is your love and passion for the Lord overflowing, so the Spirit of God is welcome in your heart? You will see as much of the Spirit as you are living according to the Spirit. We hope to master this lifestyle while journeying in this group. What an **adventure!**

It's also about **breaking out** from my comfortable plateau or my present pattern of spiritual life. We are to be continually leaping forward in our faith, love, and joy. The breaking out will be supernatural transformation taking place within your heart. Whether you are being transformed from a wound, wrong heart love, wrong belief, fear or wrong faith or sin pattern, it is God moving in and exploding the strongholds that hold you back, removing the boulders that stand in the way of your relationship with God. This transformation will not take place unless we are desperate to have these things removed and desperate for God to do it. We have many things standing in our way, so transformation is to be a continued activity throughout our lives. We should see significant transformation take place many times each year. This is dealing with “sin living in me”. This is the battleground. We must cooperate with the Holy Spirit, desperately asking Him to be freed of my sin/stone, one at a time. This is not optional if we want to live by the Spirit.

As a result of living a life of Adventure Breakout & being freed of our sins, our hearts will yearn, thirst and hunger for His presence, ever increasingly. It will come to produce an unquenchable passion for Him in and through my life. It will be a passion that causes me to be transformed into His likeness, to be in His presence continually, to see His mighty hand producing Kingdom moments in and through my life. This passion doesn't normally take place suddenly, but ever increasingly growing. We must be patient, faithful and persevere, expecting it to take place.

Peter said to Jesus, “we left everything to follow you!...Jesus replied, “no one...will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age...and in the age to come, eternal life.”

Mark 10:28-30

We are to be living in this Adventure Breakout until we come to the point of having a pure heart and experiencing holiness in our lives, living a life of love as Jesus did. No longer should worry, stress, and anxiety characterize us, but rather an overflowing of the Fruit of the Spirit that people see and are drawn to.

One of the strategic words that come from the study on the heart is to “set” your heart. In order to live this life in the Spirit, we must be so captivated by our magnificent God that we set our hearts to be completely transformed and to live according to the Spirit.

“since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your heart on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.”

Col. 3:1-3

Our role is to desperately “set our heart and mind on things above”. The word “set” here means to seek, worship, or to fall in love with the things which we will study.

Let’s set our hearts on the things of God:

But the **Fruit of the Spirit** is (Gal 5:22):

Note: this is the “fruit” of the Spirit, not something to which the flesh can attain. It comes from God alone! So, seek the Spirit, hunger & thirst for Him and experience the fruit.

As you read these verses out loud, replace the specific “fruit” word with the “full definition” as noted. Make a comment on each verse as a result of this exercise. (Don’t let these lines limit your thinking. Journal additionally elsewhere.)

*Love – “*much affection & sacrifice*”

1 Cor. 12:31-13:8a (i.e.) ...if I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not “*much affection and sacrifice*”, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal...

*Joy – “overflowing cheerfulness”, no matter my circumstance

James 1:2 _____

*Peace – a “tranquility of soul” that envelopes me

Jn. 14:27 _____

*Patience – “long suffering & steadfastness” beyond human understanding, not given to my selfish agenda

2 Tim. 4:2 _____

*Kindness – “meekness” The Spirit gives us “mildness, humility” beyond what we can do. (We don’t know why it is translated kindness, but the word here is meekness)

Col. 3:12 _____

*Goodness – “uprightness of heart and life”, sharing God’s goodness with others

Rom. 15:14 _____

*Faith – “conviction of the truth” of something, a conviction given by God that moves mountains

Matt. 17:20 _____

*Gentleness – “moral goodness & integrity” that leaves out selfish ambition

Phil. 4:5 _____

*Self-control - “not being excessive in action, thought or feeling”, restraint, never losing composure, never out of control

Prov. 25:28 _____

Just think, God is waiting to give us all of this!

Remember that none of this fruit can be displayed in the greatness of God without being full of the Spirit of God (Eph. 5:18). What would your life be like if this characterized you most!

Journal on this! _____

Wouldn't a longing and thirsting for the Spirit be a beautiful thing in us? _____

What is God saying to you right now? _____

In your life, what would be greater than having this fruit on constant display? From an earthly perspective, what could possibly compare? God says it is possible. To what extent are you willing to go to experience the fullness of God? _____

Eph. 3:19 _____

Do you desire to have "all" the fullness of God? _____

Eph. 1:3 Journal on what you think "every spiritual blessing is and what it would be like to have it. _____

Now think about what God desires to see in us!

1 John 1:3,4 Journal on the idea of what fellowship with the Father and the Son, making their joy complete, would be like. _____

1 John 2:15-17 Journal on what it would be like to have the "desires of the world" passing away from your life. _____

Journal what doing the will of God & living forever looks & feels like in your life. _____

What would be the greatest thing God could do in and through you? _____

1 John 3:6 Can you see yourself "fully in Him" and "not sinning"? _____

John 15:8 Dream and think about "bearing much fruit". What is God saying to you about bearing much fruit? _____

2 Cor. 3:17; Gal. 5:1 Living a life in true freedom – how would that feel? How would your life be different? _____

1 Peter 1:13 Journal on what it would be like to have your hope fully on the grace to be given. _____

1 Peter 1:15 Record your thoughts on the verse and what God would think and feel if you were this way. _____

So let's summarize: Consider that God offers & wants all these things to the full in our lives through His Spirit:

- all affection & love for Him and our brothers & sisters
- overflowing with joy
- a peace that passes all understanding
- patience that is longsuffering & steadfast

- meekness & humility that fosters kindness naturally
- goodness that comes from uprightness of heart
- faith that moves mountains
- gentleness that is moral goodness and integrity
- self-control that is without excessiveness in thought, action or feeling
- experiencing & knowing every spiritual blessing in me
- being in fellowship with the Father & the Son
- wrong desires passing away
- in the middle of the will of God continually
- being “in Him” and not sinning
- bearing imperishable fruit that fills the warehouse God has given me
- experiencing freedom that is without restraint & rules, only love in action
- having a thirsting hope for the return of Jesus
- experiencing holiness often and regularly
- having an unquenchable passion for Him

John 15:5 Consider how the branch has no value without the vine. All sustenance for being alive and bearing fruit comes from the vine. We have no hope of experiencing any of this without an intimate relationship with Him.

Matt. 22:37 _____

Loving with all your heart, more specifically, having all affection for the Lord - is this the needed focus in order to experience all these things? Being in deep relationship with the Lord, yearning to be in His presence: do you yearn to be in His presence? How often? There is no place you can go to experience all these things. Look at Rev. 21 and read about the eternal Kingdom of God. We can partially experience the Kingdom of God here on earth and fully for eternity!

What is God saying to you in all of this? How do you feel? _____

We believe that as a result of loving our Lord with all of our heart, it will lead us to living according to the Spirit. (Rom. 8:5) **It is the Spirit of God that will make it all possible as a result of our love for Him!!**

Can you imagine anything more adventurous than to experience all these things, ever increasingly, by the Spirit of God? Can you think of a life more exciting than to have all these things to the fullness of God? We need a Band of Brothers that literally hold to these things in their hearts and travel together. We need the fellowship to encourage and exhort one another to continuous breakouts that bring us ever closer to God. Let’s come together, now is our time to worship within Adventure Breakout!

May you develop an unquenchable passion to know, have, and live this Kingdom life.