

IDENTITY

Q Have you ever stressed about your relationship with God?

John 20:19-23 – On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were ...together with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "**Peace be with you!**" ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Again Jesus said, "**Peace be with you!** As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven. (NIV)

John 14:26 – "I'm telling you these things while I'm still living with you. The Friend, the Holy Spirit **whom the Father will send at my request, will make everything plain to you.** He will remind you of all the things I have told you. (MSG)

RECEIVE

John 20:22 – Jesus said **receive** the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is meant to be received...God sent the Holy Spirit to be received...

This word **receive** is the Greek term **Lambano**

To take possession of with great passion to be aggressive, seize with great zeal

1 Timothy 6:12-13... Fight the good fight of the faith. **Take hold** of the eternal life (NIV)

Matthew 13:44 – “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

TCC -We are to Take hold of this and make it our identity

Galatians 2:20 – **I no longer live**, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God (NIV)

- This is only possible when we receive the Holy Spirit... take Hold and seize the presence of God

TENSION

Two natures in one person... an old Identity with which we are born with... and now a new one, an intended one that we are born again with

Paul says ... **there is a war in my members**... Fight going on

Romans 7:15 – **I don't understand myself at all**, for I really want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do the very thing I hate. (NLT)

TCC -The very thing that causes the tension is also the answer for this dilemma

Before we met Christ the Bible says we were ...**slaves to sin**

- No matter how many **good things** we did we were still slaves to sin
- **Mow the lawn**- Slave to sin... **Flowers** to your spouse – Slave to sin
- **Feed the poor** –Slave to sin...**Go to church** slave to sin
 - **1 Corinthians 13 give up our life!!** - Profits nothing

TCC: Good deeds never changed our status as slaves to sin

- Damned if you do and damned if you don't in an eternal since
- Dead in trespass and sin

Born Again: When we receive Him: Jesus comes with the spirit of **lambano**... with aggression taking our sin in exchange for His Spirit

Colossians 2:13-15 – You were dead because of your sins.... Then God made you alive with Christ. **He forgave all our sins.** 14 **He canceled** the record that contained the charges against us. He took it and destroyed it by nailing it to Christ's cross. (NLT)

He takes our sin to Himself- Great zeal!! Never to return it...Once and for all. Our sin died with Christ.

Romans 6:6-7 – We are no longer slaves to sin. 7 For when we died with Christ we were set free from the **power of sin...** (NLT)

Romans 6:14...Sin is no longer your master... (NLT)

Bottom line: **TCC- Saved if we do and saved if we don't, because of the presence of the Holy Spirit**

To say anything different is to say that **sin is greater** than the righteousness of God or that free gift you were given was ultimately **secured by our behavior**

RECEIVE AGAIN AND AGAIN

Give in to life in the Spirit... **Ephesians 5:18 ... be filled with the Holy Spirit...**
Keep on being filled

TCC- Receive the Holy Spirit.... Ponder... be filled again and again