



I. Cellphones & Sailboats

II. The Filling Of The Holy Spirit

1st Corinthians 2:9-13

Receiving & Understanding

Galatians 5:16-17

Walking & Resisting

III. Presence That Persists

Personal Reflection

Take time this week to pray & respond to the following:

The Holy Spirit is not a commodity to be acquired & possessed. His presence is not, first & foremost, meant to make you feel good about yourself. The presence of the Holy Spirit is about sanctification—the refining of your character, conduct & overall condition so that you become increasingly like your Savior. Sanctification occurs incrementally in the life of a person who is filled with the Holy Spirit.

To be filled with the Holy Spirit means to be motivated & directed by the will of God. This filling occurs because a person chooses to give the presence of God a position of high priority in their life. One is not accidentally or automatically filled with the Spirit of God. Likewise, one does not walk with Him or grow in Him without intentionally endeavoring to do so.

Are you filled with the Holy Spirit today or have you been fooled into believing His presence is not important or even possible? If you are being led by something or someone other than God, have you considered the consequences of your choice? Today is an excellent day to exercise some self-discipline by choosing to let go of influences, attitudes & activities that are preventing you from experiencing the filling & leading of the Holy Spirit.

Prayerfully consider the truth regarding what or who you are following. Ask God to reveal if you are being filled with His Spirit or if you have been fooled by an imposter or substitute. Thank God for the opportunity to draw near to Him in a time of prayer & reflection. Praise God for the chance to have a relationship with Him through the ongoing presence of the Holy Spirit. Commit to be on guard against distractions & deceptions that would interfere with the Lord's sanctifying work in your life.