

“Spirit-filled Leadership”

(Romans 1:8-15)

INTRO: Qt: “People serve the Lord from many motives. Some serve out of legalistic effort, as a means of earning salvation & God’s favor. Some serve the Lord for fear that, if they do not, they will incur His disfavor & perhaps even lose their salvation. Some serve because of the prestige & esteem that leadership often brings. Some serve in order to gain preeminent positions & the power to lord it over those under their care. Some serve for appearances’s sake, in order to be considered righteous by fellow church members and & by the world...” - John MacArthur

WELCOME... to week #4... “Spirit-filled Leadership”

REVIEW: Week #1 **G.O.S.P.E.L.!**

Week #2 **Set Apart for the Gospel (v.1)**

Week #3 **Portrait of Promise** for Imperfect People (v. 1-7)

People	Slaves, Summoned, Sent, Set-Apart
Promise	“...the Gospel He promised... beforehand”
Prophets	“He promised beforehand thru His prophets...”
Person	“His Son, Son of God, Jesus Christ our Lord.”
Power	“...declared to be the Son of God with power.”
Proof	“...with power by the resurrection...”
Provision	“...given you grace & apostleship...”
Purpose	“for the GLORY OF GOD!”
Proclamation	“obedience of faith!”
Privileges	“beloved of God, called, saint-status, grace, peace, adoption, access to “Daddy-God”

T/S: We’ve seen the “portrait of the promise” - now it’s time to delve into...
the DNA of the disciple...

Remember: DNA does not “determine” who you are...
...it “reveals” who God made you to be.” - JDP

LET’S LOOK AT GOD’S “PRESCRIPTION” FOR US...

THROUGH HIS “DESCRIPTION” OF PAUL’S...

SPIRIT-FILLED LEADERSHIP DNA!

Romans 1:8-15

8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world. **9** God, whom I serve in my spirit (with my whole heart), in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you **10** in my prayers at all times; and I pray that now at last by God's will the way may be opened for me to come to you. **11** I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong— **12** that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith. **13** I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that I planned many times to come to you (but have been prevented from doing so until now) in order that I might have a harvest among you, just as I have had among the other Gentiles. **14** I am obligated both to Greeks and non-Greeks, both to the wise and the foolish. **15** That is why I am so eager to preach the gospel also to you who are in Rome.

T/S: Let's unpack this passage... word by word, phrase by phrase... **truth by truth!**

"Spirit-filled Leadership" includes...

THANKFUL SPIRIT (1:8a)

"First, I thank my God..."

John 15:16: *"You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain..."*

Matthew 5:2-12: *"He (Jesus) opened His mouth to teach them, saying: 'Blessed are the poor in spirit... Blessed are those who mourn... Blessed are the gentle... Blessed are those who hunger & thirst after righteousness... Blessed are the merciful... Blessed are the pure in heart... Blessed are peace-makers... Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness... Rejoice & be glad, for your reward in heaven is great..."*

"God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him." - John Piper

GENUINE CHRISTIAN SPIRIT (1:8b) *"...through Jesus Christ..."*

John 14:6 *"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life, no one comes to the Father except through Me." - Jesus, the Christ*

Acts 4:12 *"And there is salvation in on one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved."*

CARING/CONCERNED SPIRIT (1:8c) “...(I thank God...) for all of you...”

John 13:15 “I have set you an example, that you should do as I have done for you
2 Cor 12:15 “I will most gladly spend and be expended for your souls...”

MISSIONAL SPIRIT (1:8d) “...(I thank God... for all of you...) because your faith is being reported all over the world.”

Note Paul’s focus: FAITH... in Jesus Christ. Faith in the Gospel!

Famous Faith... What are you “known” for? What are you “famous” for?
WHO and/or HOW is YOUR FAITH INSPIRING?

Remember: **Matthew 12:30:** “He who is not with Me is against Me; and he who does not gather with Me scatters.” -- **Jesus, the Christ**

SERVANT’S SPIRIT (1:8e) “God, whom I serve...”

Do you “serve” the Lord? How do you “serve” the Lord?surrendered Slave?

Paul gives us a great, Christ-like example of a “slaves” commitment to serve...

2 Cor. 11:23-28 *Are they servants of Christ... I am more. I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. **24** Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. **25** Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, **26** I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers. **27** I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked. **28** Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches.*

How surrendered to serve are you.... **slave or hired-hand?**

“ALL-IN” SPIRIT (1:8f)

(I serve...) “with my whole heart...”

Look back over 2 Corinthians 11:23-28 (above)... that’s a “whole-hearted” walk

SLAVES - by definition = LIVE “ALL-IN” for Jesus...

ALL-IN means HEART & body!

Acts 16:25 *“...about midnight (after having been flogged publicly) Paul & Silas were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.”*

That’s whole-hearted worship!

Great Scripture equation.... 2 Corinthians 11:23-28 + Acts 16:25 = Mark 12:30

Mark 12:30 *“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.”*

GOSPEL-PROCLAIMING SPIRIT (1:9a)

(“God, whom I serve with my whole heart...”) in preaching the gospel of his Son...

Acts 1:8 *“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” -- Jesus, the Christ*

Eph. 4:15 *“...speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ...”*

DIVINELY ENDORSED SPIRIT (1:9b)

(God...), is my witness”

Who is endorsing your words / opinions / beliefs / ministry?

If it is not the God of the Bible, as validated by biblical context & truth...

If God’s not backing you up... no one is!

CONSISTENT SPIRIT (1:10a)

“...how constantly...at all times...”

Read some New Testament “**Always**” verses...

John 7:6 - “Jesus said to them, ‘My time has not yet come, but your time is **always** opportune.’”

Acts 7:51 - “You who are stiff-necked and uncircumcised of the heart and ears are **always** resisting the Holy Spirit...”

Acts 24:16 - “I do my best to **always** maintain a clean conscious before God and man.”

1 Cor. 1:4 - “I thank my God **always** concerning you, for the grace of God which was given you, in Christ Jesus.”

1 Cor. 15:58 - “...my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, **always** abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.”

2 Cor. 2:14 - “...thanks be to God, who **always** leads us in triumph in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him, in every place.”

2 Cor. 4:10 - “always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our body.”

Ephesians 5:20 - “...**always** giving thanks for all things... in Jesus...”

Philippians 4:4 - “Rejoice in the Lord **always**...” (Also: **1 Thess. 5:16**)

Colossians 1:3 - “We give thanks... praying always for you.”

Colossians 4:6 - “Let your speech **always** be with grace...”

1 Thess. 1:2 - “We give thanks to God always for all of you.”

1 Peter 3:15 - “...sanctify Christ as Lord in your heart, **always** being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence.”

2 Peter 1:12 - I will **always** be ready to remind you... even tho you know...

*****Consistency is a critical component of Christ-likeness*****

PRAYERFUL SPIRIT (1:10b)

"...(how constantly) I remember you in my prayers at all times; and I pray..."

Ephesians 6:18 *"Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints."*

1 Thess. 5:17 *"...pray without ceasing..."*

7 Deadly Sins that can Kill your Prayers:

- Wrong Motives* - Read **James 4:3**
- Sin* - Read **Isaiah 59:1-2**
- Idols* - Read **Ezekiel 14:3**
- Hardened Hearts* - Read **Proverbs 21:13**
- Unforgiveness* - Read **Mark 11:25**
- Unbelief* - Read **James 1:5-7**
- Luke-warmness* - Read **Revelation 3:16**

PATIENT SPIRIT (1:10c)

"...(I pray) that now at last..."

Think about... Noah... Abraham/Sarah... **God with you & me!**

DISCERNING SPIRIT (1:10d)

"...by God's will..."

Four Primary Ways to Discern God's Will:

- Bible** - Life's "User's Manual"
- Prayer** - Direct conversations with God
- Christians** - God's messengers
- Circumstances** - God's whispers and winks

EMPOWERED SPIRIT (1:10e) *“(by God's will)... the way may be opened for me...”*

God empowers His people!

The God who parted the red sea for Moses, opened the Jordan river for Joshua and made a way for Paul to go to Rome... is the same God that is guarantying to make a way for you... for fulfill His will.

God will always empower what He inspires!

NIMBLE SPIRIT (1:10f) *(the way opened for me...) to come to you.”*

Note how Paul consistently went to the people God sent him to... no matter what!

Like Paul, we're to turn on a dime & go where/when God sends us to others.

LOVING SPIRIT (1:11a) *“I long to see you...”*

We, like Paul, (and Jesus)... love to love-on & serve others - no matter what!

Hebrews 12:2 *“Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the Author & Perfecter of faith, who, for the joy set before Him, endured the cross”*

EQUIPPER'S SPIRIT (1:11b) *“...so that I may impart to / (share with) you...”*

1 Cor. 12 = Only the Holy Spirit can give/distribute Spiritual gifts...

1 Cor. 12:7 *“...to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.”*

GIFTED SPIRIT (1:11c) *“...some spiritual gift...”*

Paul is sharing His spiritual gift(s) to help **“Find the Lost & Grow the Found”**

NURTURING SPIRIT (1:11c)

(to impart to you some spiritual gift...) to make you strong—”

Ephesians 4:11-12

Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up

HUMBLE SPIRIT (1:12a)

“...that is, that you and I may be mutually...”

1 Cor. 15:9

“For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.”

Read: Acts 10:34-35; Romans 10:12

ENCOURAGING SPIRIT (1:12b) *“...encouraged by each other’s faith.”*

Barnabas (name definition) = “Son of Encouragement”

Acts 16:40

“...after Paul and Silas came out of the prison, they went to Lydia’s house, where they met with the brothers and sisters and encouraged them.”

Colossians 2:2

“My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ...”

PROTECTIVE SPIRIT (1:13a) *“I do not want you to be unaware...”*

Jude 3-5a *Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt compelled to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God’s holy people. 4 For certain individuals whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into*

a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord Though you already know all this, I want to remind you

UNIFIED SPIRIT (1:13b) *"...brothers..."*

Psalm 133:1 *How good & pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity*

Ephesians 4:3 *Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."*

STRATEGIC SPIRIT (13:c) *"I have planned..."*

Isaiah 14:24 *"The LORD of hosts has sworn saying, "Surely, just as I have intended so it has happened, and just as I have planned so it will stand..."*

PERSEVERING SPIRIT (13:d) *"...many times to come to you..."*

1 Timothy 4:16 *"Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers."*

Hebrews 10:46 *"You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised."*

SUBMISSIVE SPIRIT (1:13c) *"...but have been prevented from doing so..."*

Acts 16:7 *"When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to."*

ATTENTIVE SPIRIT (1:13:d) “...until now...”

It is soooooo important to recognize the voice & commands of God...
Think about: Noah, Pharaoh, Gideon, Paul... YOU & me!

INTENTIONAL SPIRIT (1:13e) “...so that / in order that...”

Hebrews 12:2 “...for the joy set before Him (Jesus) endured the cross...”

RESPONSIBLE SPIRIT (1:13f) “...I (possessive) might have...”

Key context... Paul is excepting responsibility for his role in God’s plan.

NOTE: Key verse to balance God’s sovereignty & our responsibility:

Luke 22:22 “...indeed, the Son of Man is going (to the cross) as it has been determined; but woe to that man by whom He is betrayed!”

PASTORAL SPIRIT (1:13g) “...have a harvest / obtain some fruit among you...”

1 Cor. 9:22 “To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak; I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some.”

FRUITFUL SPIRIT (1:13h) “...just as I have had among the other Gentiles.”

John 15:16: “You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain...”

Acts 2:41 & 47 “Those who accepted his (Peter) message were baptized, & about three thousand were added to their number that

day... And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

OBLIGATED SPIRIT (1:14a)

"I am obligated (a.k.a. indebted)..."

When we understand who we were & what Jesus has done for us... we share!

1 Timothy 1:15 *"Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst."*

If you were cured of cancer or aids... free of charge - by the grace of someone else; and were given one million, guaranteed, doses that would cure others inflicted with the same disease... You would sense the obligation to share...

UN-PREJUDICED SPIRIT (1:14b)

"...both to Greeks and non-Greeks (barbarians), both to the wise and the foolish."

God sees & loves souls... There is no "thems" in the Christian vocabulary.

Love & hate can no more mix than light and darkness. - JDP

Bigotry & hatred may, sadly, plague the "visible Church," but the "doormen" of love & holiness keep those sinful impostors out of the true, albeit invisible Church of Jesus Christ. - JDP

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."*

TRANSPARENT SPIRIT (1:15a)

"That is why..."

John 18:37 *"...Pilate said to Him, "So You are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say correctly that I am a king For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to testify to the truth Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."*

SO-EAGER SPIRIT (1:15)

"...I am so eager to preach the gospel..."

1 Samuel 17:48

"Then it happened when the Philistine rose and came and drew near to meet David, that David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet the Philistine."

CHRIST-LIKE SPIRIT (1:15c)

"...also to YOU who are at _____ Rome."

Luke 19:10

For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

BOLD SPIRIT (1:16)

"I am not ashamed of the gospel..."

I am obligated...

I am so eager.... AND

I am not ashamed of the gospel!

AMEN!