

# Make Church a Part of Your Life

## WEEKLY SERMONETTE

### "Grasping the Benefits of Having the Son"

By Preacher/Teacher Terry Laughlin, CrossRoads Ministries

#### WE HAVE THE BENEFIT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Read from Scripture what the Ultimate Father did. "For God so loved the world, He gave His one and only Son, that whoever, believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16) Those who receive the Father's gift, receive all the Father has. The Bible gives us this wonderful truth, "What I am saying is that as long as the heir is a child, he is no different from a slave, although he owns the whole estate. He is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father. So also, when we were children, we were in slavery under the basic principles of the world. But when the time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, 'Abba, Father.' So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir." (Galatians 4:1-7)

1 John 4:13 says, "This is how we know that we live in Him and He in us: He has given us His Spirit." With a continuous and ongoing awareness, there is an intimate communion with God by His Holy Spirit. Romans 8:16 says, "The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God." Romans 6:11 gives us this promise, "And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is

living in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because His Spirit who lives in you."

Charles Swindoll wrote: "A number of miles from the Los Angeles basin, there is a river. The river has been dammed up by man, and through the genius and innovation of engineers, they have put together a dam that has, in its process of working, housed elec-

tricity--hundreds of thousands of volts that are fed into the Los Angeles basin. If you were to go to the various transmission plants along the way, you would read signs marked with, 'Danger, High Voltage.' 'No trespassing, Danger.' Hundreds of thousands of volts are available in energy for your home, but who needs a hundred thousand volts, unless he wants to burn up his home? To keep a home

from burning down, engineers have built transformers into the system - not transmitters, but transformers. The transformers do nothing more than break down into meaningful units, just the right amount of electricity you need.

I have in my home, for example, another transformer. One Christmas I gave myself an HO gauge train. There is a tiny unit called a transformer on the train set, and it breaks down the 110 volts from the wall to even less. Why, if you plugged into a straight 110 outlet, that train would go pzzzzt! for one second and then burn up. The transformer for the train breaks the electricity down for the small train engine to run just right, so the train just putt, putts at just the right speed.

When the Holy Spirit, the transformer, comes, He will take the majestic truths of God and will dispense them just the way you need them, give it to you with handles that you can take and use. It is the Spirit's delight to take the full truth of God and make one thing meaningful to that woman, something altogether different to that man, and something different again to that fellow down there. That's the work of the Spirit, and He never makes a mistake. He gives you just what you can handle." (The Tale of the Tardy Oxcart, Swindoll)

Christians can depend on the Holy Spirit to equip and empower them with just what they need in their service to the Lord.



Photo Credit: iStockphoto.com/KentWeakley

### Forever Blowing Bubbles

What fun we had as children creating floating, sparkling bubbles with a mere exhale. When we chased the drifting orbs and clapped them between our hands they disappeared! Over and over the game continued until the magical fluid was gone. Do you ever feel like the game is over and the bubbles have burst? Gone with the responsibilities of grown-up life? You can find your inner child again through God. Visit your house of worship this week and learn of the joy that comes from being a child of the Heavenly Father. Your happiness will bubble up from deep within!

#### Weekly Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 11.17-34	Amos 1.1-15	Amos 2.1-16	Amos 3.1-15	Amos 5.1-27	Amos 9.1-15	Obadiah 1-21
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Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

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## SUDOKU

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Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

#### Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

6	7	9	5	2	9	6	2	4
3	7	4	8	1	5	3	7	8
2	8	1	3	6	4	8	9	6
2	5	4	8	7	1	3	6	2
5	1	8	9	6	3	4	2	7
4	2	8	9	6	3	4	2	7
7	6	9	6	5	2	4	8	3
4	2	3	7	1	7	1	8	5
1	3	7	2	4	6	9	1	8
8	5	4	6	9	8	6	9	1
6	7	9	5	1	3	2	4	8

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