

GOD'S HOME IN US

By Bill Subritzky

Jesus made a remarkable statement in response to a question from Judas (not Iscariot). He was asked why Jesus would manifest Himself to the disciples and not to the world.

Jesus said, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We come to him and make Our home with him." (John 14:23.)

Just think about it for a moment. Here is Jesus saying that both He and the Heavenly Father will come and live in us if we love Him and keep His word.

There are 2 simple requirements for God to come and live in us.

The first requirement is we are to love God. The commandment requires us to love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.

Jesus said, "And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first commandment." (Mark 12:30.)

To love God with all our heart means that we totally surrender to Him. This is a daily and hourly commitment. As a man I found it very difficult initially to do this but I made up my mind that I would obey this commandment.

Each day I began to tell God that I loved Him. I told Him that several times daily and kept doing it until it began to register in my heart what that love really meant. It means total surrender of our thought life and our very being to God. To do this we must be reading the Scripture regularly and banishing any

thoughts of sin. The Word of God will convict us of anything that is displeasing to God.

As I continued to tell God I loved Him, whatever the circumstances that were around me or even tormenting me, then I found there was a reality of the presence of God coming into my life which I had never known before.

I found that I had increasing faith to pray believing for answers to prayer. As I prayed for others my faith grew because I knew God was within me and guiding me by His Holy Spirit.

I have done this for the past 40 years. God has never failed. Even as I write this I feel His love and power around me.

It is something I cannot explain. It is an experience born out of obedience to the Word of God. My flesh hated me telling God that I loved Him. By this I mean my natural mind was totally opposed to this concept and that is exactly what the Bible says namely that our natural mind is against God.

I had to fight against my natural mind and decide that as a matter of obedience I would confess to God daily that I loved Him and would obey Him.

I began to love Him with all my heart, soul, mind and strength.

Now I know the presence of God at all times. When I am praying for somebody I don't have to wait for the anointing of God to come in ten minutes or half an hour, it is there all the time.

The second requirement is that we are to keep the Word of God. In other words, we are to obey God.

This means that we need to know the Word of God. We should be reading our Bible daily and as we do so God will give us a 'rhema' (spiritual insight) into His Word.

The Bible says that the Word of God is quick and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to divide asunder joints and marrow, soul and spirit, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. (Hebrews 4:12.)

Believing the Word of God gives us faith and as we believe that Word it operates in our lives. It brings us closer to God and we then can believe more easily for the presence of God to be within us. In that way we can also know more of His love.

We need to believe the Word of God like a little child. When I first became a Christian there were many parts of the Bible I did not understand but I said to God that I would believe them anyway and as I did so the Lord gave me understanding of them.

As I have obeyed the Word of God then God has responded to my prayers.

He has made His home within me. He lives in me by His Holy Spirit. Accordingly when I come to counsel a person then I can rely on the Holy Spirit to guide me. If I am praying for a person the same thing happens.

You can have all of these experiences. It is all free! It is paid for at the cross.

Just become like a little child, obey the Word of God, love Him with all your heart, soul, mind and strength and then the miracles will begin to happen in your life.

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