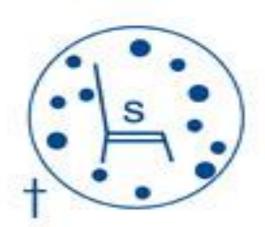
"In the Spirit"

The Spirit-Filled Life

1. Natural Person Someone who has not received Christ.



Natural Person (Self-Directed Life)

Self is on the throne, directing decisions and actions (represented by the dots), often resulting in frustration. Jesus is outside the life.

A natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised" (1 Corinthians 2:14).

2. Spiritual Person

One who is directed and empowered by the Holy Spirit.



Spiritual Person (Christ-Directed Life)

Jesus is in the life and on the throne. Self is yielding to Jesus. The person sees Jesus' influence and direction in their life.

"He who is spiritual appraises all things...We have the mind of Christ" (1 Corinthians 2:15).

3. Carnal Person

(One who has received Christ, but who lives in defeat because he is trying to live the Christian life in his own strength.)



Carnal Person (Self-Directed Life)

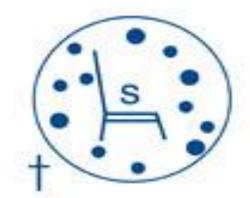
Jesus is in the life but not on the throne. Self is on the throne, directing decisions and actions (represented by the dots), often resulting in frustration.

And I brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to carnal men, as to babes in Christ. I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able to receive it. Indeed, even now you are not yet able, for you are still carnal. For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshy, and are you not walking like mere men?" (1 Corinthians 3:1-3)

Spiritual Person

Christ-centered Empowered by the Holy Spirit Introduces others to Christ Effective prayer life Understands God's Word Trusts & obeys God Experiences love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness, goodness & self-control





Natural Person (Self-Directed Life)

Self is on the throne, directing decisions and actions (represented by the dots), often resulting in frustration. Jesus is outside the life.

Carnal Person

Unbelief Disobedience Poor prayer life No desire for Bible study Legalistic attitude or critical spirit Impure thoughts, jealousy, guilt Frustration, aimlessness Worry, discouragement Loss of love for God and others



How to be filled with the Holy Spirit? We are filled by the Holy Spirit by faith; 1. Sincerely desire to be directed and empowered by the Holy Spirit (Matthew 5:6; John 7:37-39). 2. Confess your sins. By faith thank God that He has forgiven all of your sins - past, present and future - because Christ died for you (Colossians 2:13-15; 1 John 1; 2:1-3; Hebrews 10:1-17).

How to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

We are filled by the Holy Spirit by faith;

- 3. Present every area of your life to God (Romans 12:1, 2).
- 4. By faith claim the fullness of the Holy Spirit, according to:

His Command: Be filled with the Spirit. "And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit" (Ephesians 5:18). Do not depend upon feelings. The promise of God's Word, not our feelings, is our authority. The Christian lives by faith (trust) in God Himself and His Word.



God and His Word

Our trust in God and His Word

The result of our faith and obedience

By faith you can continue to experience God's love and forgiveness.

Exercise Spiritual Breathing:

1.Exhale -- <u>confess your sin</u> -- agree with God concerning your sin and thank Him for His forgiveness of it, according to 1 John 1:9 and Hebrews 10:1-25. Confession involves repentance - a change in attitude and action.

2.Inhale -- <u>surrender the control of your life to Christ</u>, and appropriate (receive) the fullness of the Holy Spirit by faith. Trust that He now directs and empowers you; according to the command of Ephesians 5:18, and the promise of 1 John 5:14,