

Preparing to See the Spiritual Realm

Living in the Spiritual Realm 3, Session 5

Bible Study

- Where does your spirit exist?
- Is your spirit aware of what's happening in the spiritual realm near you?
- Can your spirit detect other spiritual beings near you?
- Do you think it's possible to train yourself to better experience the spiritual realm?
- Heb 5:14, "But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil."
 - "trained" (Gk, v, *gymnazo*): (1) to discipline or exercise oneself; (2) to train
 - According to this verse, how can we train ourselves?
 - "constant use" (Gk, n, *hexis*): (1) a habit; (2) a power acquired by custom, practice, use
 - this is a general principle applies to spiritual senses: train our senses by using them
 - "distinguish" (Gk, n, *diakrisis*): (1) ability to decide, ability to distinguish; (2) dispute, argue
 - 1 Co 12:10, "... to another distinguishing between spirits."
 - You can discipline or train yourself in spiritual matters by making a habit of exercising these abilities
 - Perseverance is essential to progress

Spiritual sight

- Would you consider a blind person handicapped, even if they could hear? Why?
- If God enables some people to see the spiritual realm, does that mean he equipped them differently than he did those who can't see the spiritual realm? Or is spiritual vision possible for all of us?
- 1 Sam 9:9, "Formerly in Israel, if a man went to inquire of God, he would say, 'Come, let us go to the seer,' because the prophet of today used to be called a seer."
- If it's possible for all of us to see the spiritual realm, can we develop that ability?
 - Ask God to open your spiritual eyes
 - Eph 1:18-19(a), ¹⁸ "I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe."
 - When someone says they saw something spiritual, ask the Lord to show it to you

- Sometimes we don't have something because we don't ask for it
- Jesus is our prototype
 - 2 Co 3:18, "[We] are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory."
 - If Jesus had supernatural vision, can we also have it because we're being transformed into his likeness?
 - Mt 3:16, "As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him."
 - Mt 4:8, "Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor."
 - Mk 6:47-48, "⁴⁷ When evening came, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. ⁴⁸ He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them."
 - Jn 14:12(a), "I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing."
 - Do you have faith in Jesus?
 - Is he our prototype; did he have the features and abilities we're to have?
 - Did he have supernatural vision?
 - Did he see things in the spiritual realm?
 - Did he see things in the physical realm that were impossible to see naturally?
 - Then is it possible for you to have supernatural vision?
 - Mt 5:8, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God."
 - What does "pure in heart" mean and why is such a person able to see God now?
- Our responsibility
 - It's essential that we transform our minds from a materialistic world perspective to a Bible-based recognition of spiritual reality
 - Satan wants us to believe we should avoid spiritual experiences like these because the occult practices them
 - God our Father wants us to be aware of what's happening in the spiritual realm so we can respond appropriately & participate in what he's doing
- What to expect
 - There are several ways we can see the spiritual realm
 - Most common: open vision – an image is superimposed over physical things you see

- How it happens
 - Your psyche (soul) continuously receives inputs from your spirit & your physical body
 - We need to build up our spirits & train our psyches to pay attention to them
 - Excellent way to start is by praying in tongues, also called praying with your spirit
 - How do you think praying in tongues can strengthen your spirit?
 - How might praying in tongues help you become aware of what your spirit senses?
 - If you want to become aware of the spiritual realm, pray in tongues much more
 - 1 Co 14:8, “I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you.”
 - You are a spirit being with a psyche, temporarily living in a physical body
 - Your spirit is the real you, so make your psyche yield & let your spirit express itself

Recommended Daily Activity

- Persevere with the following:
 - pray with your spirit
 - use your spiritual authority & declare you will experience [more of] the spiritual realm
 - and focus your thoughts on the spiritual realm
- “I declare to myself and everyone in the spiritual realm that I will experience more of that realm.”

Closing

- Significant change requires deliberate effort over time, so persevere and you’ll begin making progress
- We need to prepare ourselves spiritually & psychologically so God can use us as he intends
- It’s no longer business as usual