

ENCOUNTER



— SCHOOL OF MINISTRY —

Identity as Temples of the Holy Spirit

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Class 4 - Session 1

Q1. Identity and Transformation

16 “Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?” -1 Corinthians 3:16

19 “Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?” -1 Corinthians 6:19

Temple of the Holy Spirit = the house
and dwelling place of God.

10 “Jacob departed from Beer-sheba and proceeded toward Haran. 11 When he came upon a certain place, he stopped there for the night, since the sun had already set. Taking one of the stones at the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. *(cont.)*

¹² Then he had a dream: **a stairway rested on the ground, with its top reaching to the heavens; and God's angels were going up and down on it.** ¹³ And there was the Lord standing beside him and **saying**: 'I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you are lying I will give to you and your descendants.'

14 Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and through them you will spread to the west and the east, to the north and the south. In you and your descendants all the families of the earth will find blessing. 15 I am with you and will protect you wherever you go, and bring you back to this land. I will never leave you until I have done what I promised you.'

¹⁶ When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he said, **“Truly, the Lord is in this place and I did not know it!”** ¹⁷ He was afraid and said: **“How awesome this place is! This is nothing else but the house of God, the gateway to heaven!”** *(cont.)*

18 Early the next morning Jacob took the stone that he had put under his head, set it up as a sacred pillar, and poured oil on top of it. 19 He named that place *Bethel* (which means 'house of God')."

-Genesis 28:10-19

Two Images of God's Presence at Bethel

1. House of God – Temple of God
2. Gateway of Heaven

Four Key Elements of Temples of the Holy Spirit - Bethel

1. Open Heaven
2. Voice of God
3. Angelic Activity
4. Amazement

14 “And the Word became flesh and dwelt (*tabernacled*) among us.”

-*John 1:14*

51 “Amen, amen, I say to you, you will see the sky opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.” -*John 1:51*

Four Key Elements of *THE* Temple of the Holy Spirit - Jesus

1. Open Heaven
2. Voice of God
3. Angelic Activity
4. Amazement

**An Open Heaven: At his Baptism -
“On coming up out of the water he
saw the heavens being torn open.”
(Mk 1:10)**

The Voice of God: Again at Baptism
- “a voice came from the heavens,
“You are my beloved Son; with you,
I am well pleased.” (Mk 1:11)

Angelic Activity: Right after his baptism when he meets Nathaniel - Jesus says: "amen, amen, I say to you, you will see the sky open and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man." (Jn 1:51)

**Amazement: Right After Baptism -
“All were amazed and asked one
another, “What is this? A new
teaching with authority. He
commands even the unclean spirits
and they obey him.” (Mark 1:28)**

“Jesus answered and said to them,
“Destroy this temple and in three days
I will raise it up.” ... But he was
speaking about the temple of his
body.” – John 2:19,21

12 Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. - *John 8:12*

“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.” – *Matthew 5:14*

**“Do you not know that you are
God’s temple and that God’s Spirit
dwells in you?” -1 Cor 3:16**

The reality that Jesus experienced as **THE** temple of the Holy Spirit is the same reality that we can experience as temples of the Holy Spirit today.

Four Key Elements of The Temple of the Holy Spirit - You

1. Open Heaven
2. Voice of God
3. Angelic Activity
4. Amazement

Question: How do we become a
House of God?

Answer: The same way the first disciples were transformed into temples of the Holy Spirit.

1 When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. 2 And suddenly there came **from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind**, and it filled the entire house in which they were. 3 Then there appeared to them **tongues as of fire**, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. *(cont.)*

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in **different tongues**, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim. 5 Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven staying in Jerusalem. 6 At this **sound**, they gathered in a large crowd, but they were confused because each one heard them speaking in his own language. *(cont.)*

7 They were **astounded, and in amazement** they asked, “Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans? 8 Then how does each of us hear them in his own native language?” ... 12 They were all **astounded and bewildered**, and said to one another, “What does this mean?” 13 But others said, scoffing, “They have had too much new wine.”” -Acts 2:7-8, 12-13

Four Key Elements of *the* Temple of the Holy Spirit - Pentecost

1. Open Heaven
2. Voice of God
3. Angelic Activity
4. Amazement

4 “You make the winds your messengers;
flaming fire, your ministers.”

-Psalm 104:4

Four Key Elements of *the* Temple of the Holy Spirit - Pentecost

1. Open Heaven
2. Voice of God
3. Angelic Activity
4. Amazement

“Therefore, He Who dwells in the temple has divine power, for as of the Father and of the Son, so are we also the temple of the Holy Spirit; not many temples, but one temple, for it is the temple of one Power.”

- *St. Ambrose of Milan, “On the Holy Spirit”*

Activation:

Dwelling Place - Grow in awareness of our temple identity.