

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD

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After finishing last week's message, I drove home with an aching heart as it became clear to me that the "presence of the Lord" was no longer in our church. As I prayed and wrestled with the Lord throughout the afternoon and into the evening, I was strongly compelled to seek God in this matter and ask Him what should be done. On Monday morning it became clear to me that God wanted to speak to myself and the congregation about the need to redirect our attention away from asking God to bless us with this or that and seek his presence.

THE WORDS OF JESUS

Jesus made it very clear to the apostles that they could do nothing without Him. Whatever they did had to be done in the name of Jesus. **John 15:1-5**

Programs and routine activities can never replace the presence of Jesus and every activity in which we participate should be in an atmosphere of prayer and being conscious that Jesus is being made the center of it. **verses 6-17**

GOD IS HOLY

When God was going to reveal Himself to the children of Israel, He set limits on how close they could come to Him. **Exodus 19:9-25**

The prophet Isaiah described the holiness of God. **Isaiah 6:1-8**

The apostle John was shown the glory and the holiness of God. **Revelation 7:9-17**

THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Moses refused to lead the people unless the presence of God went with them. **Exodus 33:11-16**

King David cried out that the presence of God – the Holy Spirit – should not be taken from him. **Psalms 51:1-12**

The presence of the Lord filled the temple when it was dedicated. **2 Chronicles 7:1-4**

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Jesus would not let his disciples leave Jerusalem and start any ministry until they had been baptized in the Holy Spirit. **Acts 1:4-8; 2:1-4**

The Holy Spirit was important in the apostolic church. **Acts 2:37-40**

The filling of the Holy Spirit was not a one-time experience; rather, it was to be a continuous infilling. **Acts 4:23-31**



Salvation and the baptism of the Holy Spirit were mandatory during the apostolic times. **Acts 19:1-7**

SALVATION DEPENDS UPON THE HOLY SPIRIT

No man can be saved unless he is drawn by the Holy Spirit. **John 6:44, 65; 16:7-15**

STRIFE WILL DRIVE AWAY THE HOLY SPIRIT

We are not to grieve the Holy Spirit. **Ephesians 4:30-32**

Strife among God's people will cause the Holy Spirit to leave. **James 3:13-18**

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE?

God wants a personal relationship with each one of His children. A Christian should seek God and His presence because he loves God, not ignore God and seek only the benefits.

- ❖ Instead of asking God for money, let's ask God for His presence.
- ❖ Instead of asking God to heal us, let's ask God for His presence.
- ❖ Instead of asking God for material things, let's ask God for His presence.
- ❖ Instead of asking God for pleasure, let's ask God for His presence.

Jesus told us to seek the kingdom of God first, and where the presence of God is, you will also find His kingdom. **Matthew 6:33-34**

The churches in America and Europe are spiritually wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked. **Revelation 3:14-22**

Are you willing to become a part of the solution by seeking the presence of God with all your heart, soul and mind?

When the presence of the Lord is with us, our prayers will flow upward to God and be answered. **Revelation 8:3-4**

There is no unforgiveness, anger, bitterness, resentment, strife in the presence of God; it cannot exist and is burnt away and replaced with the fruit of the Spirit. **Galatians 5:22-26**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

DO YOU HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?