



Would you describe your relationship with God?

Close to God? Far from God? In the middle? – WHY?

How can you get closer to God?

“...now God has shown us a different way of being made right in his sight – not by obeying the law but by the way promised in the Scriptures long ago. We are made right in God’s sight when we trust in Jesus Christ to take away our sins. And we all can be saved in this same way, no matter who we are or what we have done. For all have sinned; all fall short of God’s glorious standard. Yet now God in his gracious kindness declares us not guilty. He has done this through Christ Jesus who has **freed us by taking away our sins.**”
Romans 3:20-26

“If the law could give us new life, we could be made right with God by obeying it. But the Scriptures declare that we are all prisoners of sin, so we receive God’s **promise of freedom** only by believing in Jesus Christ. Before the way of faith in Christ was available to us, we were placed under guard by the law. We were kept in protective custody, so to speak, until the way of faith was revealed. Let me put it another way. The law was our guardian until Christ came; it protected us **until we could be made right with God** through faith. And now that the way of faith has come, we no longer need the law as our guardian.”
Galatians 3:21-25

“So Christ has **truly set us free**. Now make sure that you **stay free**, and don’t get tied up again in slavery to the law... **For if you are trying to make yourselves right with God by keeping the law, you have been cut off from Christ!** You have fallen away from God’s grace... But we who live by the Spirit eagerly wait to receive by faith the righteousness God has promised to us. For when we place our faith in Christ Jesus, there is no benefit in being circumcised or being uncircumcised. What is important is faith expressing itself in love.”
Galatians 5:1-6,

“For you have been **called to live in freedom**, my brothers and sisters. **But don’t use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love.** For the whole law can be summed up in this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” But if you are always biting and devouring one another, watch out! Beware of destroying one another. So, I say, **let the Holy Spirit guide your lives.** Then you won’t be doing what your sinful nature craves. The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires.”
Galatians 5:13-21

Set Free from... bondage of Sin, Penalty of Sin, and Guilt

Set Free to... have a personal relationship with God and serve Him

“But now I am going away to the one who sent me... **it is best for you that I go away, because if I don’t, the Advocate won’t come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will convict the world of its sin, and of God’s righteousness, and of the coming judgment. The world’s sin is that it refuses to believe in me...** ‘There is so much more I want to tell you, but you can’t bear it now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he **will guide you into all truth.** He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future. He will bring me glory by telling you whatever he receives from me. All that belongs to the Father is mine; this is why I said, ‘The Spirit will tell you whatever he receives from me.’”
John 16:6-15

The Role of the Spirit in the world

To **convict** the world of sin & God’s truth

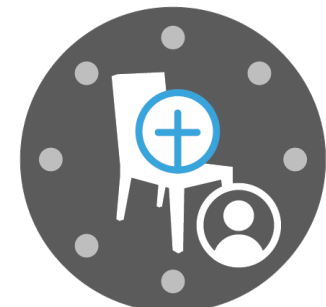
The Role of the Spirit in the life of the believer

Advocate / Counselor: **Guide** us to live in truth.

Self- Directed Life



Spirit- Directed Life



What must I do to be controlled by the Holy Spirit?

1. Desire to live a life that will please the Lord. Recognize the futility of trying to live a self-directed Christian life.
2. Be willing to submit everything to the influence of the Spirit of God.
3. Then Jesus to take control and give direction, daily
“Be filled with the Holy Spirit” Ephesians 5 – be being filled
4. Ask, Listen, and Obey