

**June 18, 2017**

**Listening**

The third habit we are learning is listening to the voice of the Holy Spirit. Find time, early in the week, to create space for communion with God.

Instead of asking the Lord questions, or letting Him know your needs, simply enjoy His presence. Sit quietly and let the Holy Spirit come near and be the supreme focus of your time. He will come. Listen for His voice, receive His greatest gift of His very Self! He comes with peace.

Learn to live according to the Spirit's influence. Live to please Him. Identify selfish desires that distract you from the Lord's priorities. Give them to the Lord and allow His strength to render them powerless in your life.

**Romans 1:1-6, 8:5-6; 2 Corinthians 13:11-14**

*Those who are grasped by this love, who have the grace of the Lord Jesus in their bloodstreams, are thereby joined together in a family which the world has never seen before. It is a family not at all based on physical or ethnic descent or relation; anyone and everyone is welcome in it, which was just as challenging to most ancient people as it is to most modern ones. It is a family called to share a common life, and the word Paul uses here, koinonia, can be translated 'partnership', 'association', 'participation', 'sharing', communion', or even 'interchange', as well as the familiar 'fellowship' (N.T. Wright, 2004).*

**Next week:** *Surprise the World continues!*

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Find someone with whom you can share your blessing and eating stories from the past two weeks. Jot down a couple of noteworthy experiences:

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As you asked the Lord for insight—to know who might share a meal with you or receive your blessing—have you sensed His direction? What was that like?

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***For further study, read John 15:26-27, 16:7-15***

These verses are part of a larger teaching of Jesus as He spoke to His disciples about His impending death, and the nature of their ongoing service. What 'leaps out' at you?

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