

## The Spirit Gives Life II

II Corinthians 3: 12-18

1/20/02

### Intro

- Pray for Steve in Africa
- Conference on the work and gifts of the Holy Spirit –Feb 1-2 at Crossroads Community Church.

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In the first part of this chapter, Paul has been contrasting the Law of the Old Testament and the ministry of the Holy Spirit in the New Testament.

He had made a comparison of their glory and he had made a comparison of them as death and life.

In these verses, Paul speaks of the result of the ministry of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers. It's about changed lives.

Insights into how the Holy Spirit makes a great difference in the lives of believers.

### **I. We use great boldness in our speech.**

Vs 1-3

A. We are not to be like Moses who covered his face.

- There is no need to hide when we are in Christ Jesus.

*Illus – Adam hid when he lost his relationship to the Lord.*

*Illus- Moses hid because he was ashamed that the glory faded.*

*Illus- We have been hiding who we really are ever since.*

- The glory does not need to fade away.
- We have an ever increasing relationship with the Lord.

B. The result is that we have great boldness in our speech.

- Words have great power. With words we can either destroy or build up.

*Illus- At the men's discipleship we spoke of the power of the words to bless. "I believe in you" are some of most powerful words known.*

- We can speak of the transforming power of the Lord.
- Not ashamed to have people know who we are.

C. A veil remains over their hearts.

- Jesus said to the Jews, "If you believed Moses you would believe me, for he spoke of me."

### **II. Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is freedom.**

Romans 8: 15

A. We did not receive a spirit if fear, but of adoption.

Galatians 4-5

- We are no longer slaves of the Law.
- Some have misunderstood this verse and thought it meant freedom in the flesh.

B. The key to freedom is the word free.

- Some people in attempting to be free make themselves a slave.
- There are three types of slavery – ***Law, sin, and fear.***

***Illus-*** The greatest freedom is freedom of the spirit. That is the core of who we are.

**If a Christian were to sin** and you could ask what he really wants – it would be to be a man of integrity.

**III. We are being transformed from glory to glory.**

Vs 18

A. The mirror is the Word of God.

- This is the process of transformation.
- Transformed by the renewing of the mind.
- It's about ***inputs!!***

Romans 12:1-2

B. Continuous beholding (in the mirror) brings about continuous change.

- Moses was only in the presence of the Lord temporarily.

- They could gaze only into the Law of God.

C. If we receive God's Word, but are not transformed by its life-giving power, then a veil lies over our hearts as well.

Conclusion

**The greatest transforming power is the power of being fully loved by God and loving Him fully in return.**

**That is what sets us free to be all we were meant and called to be.**