

# INSTRUCTIONS IN RIGHTEOUSNESS

Photo

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Entry 9 - 8

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## The Holy Spirit Gate

Constant choices lay before us. Life's journey leads us to gates and we decide whether or not we will enter. Marriage is one gate, having children is another, so is enrolling in University, buying a house, or becoming a Christian. There are gates that we should never enter. Gates like adultery or criminality should be avoided. The gates we enter determine our quality of life and our future. One gate is the most important for Christians; it is the Holy Spirit gate. This gate is not like any other, for most gates only require a one time entrance. Not the Holy Spirit gate, it stands before us every day and a disciple of Christ is expected to enter it often. Entering the Holy Spirit gate is a choice, so some who once entered may not be entering anymore. This may be true even if one is a Pentecostal, a Charismatic or a Baptist, some may not be intimate with God's Spirit anymore.

Jesus said to the Pharisees,  
*“Woe to you experts in the law, because you have taken away the key of knowledge. You yourselves have not entered, and you are hindering those who were entering.” Lk. 11:52*

The Pharisees had knowledge. They knew of the tabernacle; the outer court, the washing laver, the sacrifice, the Holy Place, the incense, the curtain, the Holy of Holies which held the Ark of the Covenant, the cherubim and the presence of God. They had knowledge, but they would not enter through the Holy Spirit gate. They would not enter and they hindered others who wanted to enter. Some leaders are like that today. They once entered, but may now hinder others from entering. They may do this if they feel their popularity or church membership is threatened. It is easy to ignore the Holy Spirit when issues of control, ownership or fear rise within us. We can become self-serving and then we may not even consult the Holy Spirit.

Jesus came and died on a cross to lead people to the Holy Spirit gate. He removed sin so we could enter into God's presence by a new and living way. Why would we be saved, then not participate in the very thing we were saved for? Jesus leads us into fellowship with the Father through the Holy Spirit gate.

Here are 4 requirements, employed by disciples who often enter the Holy Spirit gate.

1. They enter humbly
2. They enter individually
3. They enter boldly
4. They enter completely

These are essentials so let's study them one at a time.

### 1. Enter the Holy Spirit Gate Humbly

This humility is not simply being polite like the preferring-your-brother, kind of humility. This is deeper; it is total surrender. It is, “I give up, Lord you are in charge, you own me.” That is getting low. That

kind of humility pours contempt on all our pride. It means releasing our hopes, dreams and desires into the hands of God. That is how we enter the Holy Spirit gate.

## **2. Enter the Gate Individually**

This is not a group thing, a popular thing or a politically correct thing. The Holy Spirit gate is a narrow gate. You go through it individually. That means by yourself!

*“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow is the road that leads to life and only a few find it.” Mt. 7:13-14*

The word life here is Zoe. It means God life; God-quality of life. This is not just eternal life as many teach. The verse tells us that few people walk with the Lord and get their life problems fixed. People often mess-up their lives, even though, in the end, they go to heaven. They get to heaven because of grace. The narrow gate that leads to life is the Holy Spirit gate and few continue to enter it. We must choose to talk with the Lord, listen to the Lord and obey Him in the details. That is the road that leads to Zoe-life and only a few find it. We enter this narrow gate individually. It is not wide enough for more than one person at a time. Those who enter it find life.

## **3. Enter the Holy Spirit Gate Boldly**

*“Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus ... let us draw near.” Heb. 10:19,22 NKJ*

We are instructed to come into God’s presence to find help in time of need and we are told to come with great boldness. How can we come humbly but be bold at the same time? How can we dare come boldly before the creator of heaven and earth? The answer is clear, **‘by the blood of Jesus.’**

God sent Jesus to pay the ultimate price to open the Holy Spirit gate and bring us into His presence. Because of that, we are not only asked to come boldly, it is required that we come boldly. This is not arrogance, our boldness is not in ourselves, it was paid for by the all-powerful blood of Jesus. Jesus first entered the Holiest place and His blood paid for us to follow. It must not be wasted. If we do not come, then why did Jesus die? We must be bold about this. When we are bold, God receives the blessing of His Son’s sacrifice.

## **3. Enter the Gate Completely**

When you enter the Holy Spirit gate you cannot leave any part of yourself on the outside. Have you ever sat at your computer and filled out a form on-line? You fill in each box; your name, your address, your birth date etc. If you miss a box, the program will not allow you to continue. It brings you back and tells you to complete the space you

missed. Only then will it allow you to proceed. The Holy Spirit gate is like that; you have to come completely, leaving nothing behind.

Here are some closing thoughts. *“The man who enters by the gate is the shepherd of his sheep. ... the sheep listen to his voice ... Jesus said again ... I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out and find pasture ... I am come that they might have life and have it to the full.” Jn. 10:2-10*

Jesus came to lead us through the Holy Spirit gate; into God’s presence. There, we find still pastures, spiritual food, shelter, amazing guidance and the fullness of life. Jesus entered before us and now we follow Him into fellowship with the Holy Spirit.

*“We have this hope ... It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus who went before us, has entered.” Heb. 6:19-20*

*“Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.” Heb. 4:16*

The Holy Spirit gate leads us to the Holy Spirit. It is the gateway to God’s wisdom and power. You cannot be successful in God without the intimate interaction with the Holy Spirit. It is always a good time to go through the Holy Spirit gate. **AΩ**



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