

SPG INTRODUCTION

Saturation of the Presence of God (SPG) - Revival

"Revival can be described as a saturation with divine presence, God as sovereign, laying hold of people, and sweeping through a community. It is God intervening in a life, church and/or community. A **Saturation of the Presence of God**: a manifestation of the Holy Spirit that transforms you and the community. Eph. 3:19; 5:18

Saturated by the Presence of God – What would it look like if I were saturated or full of the Spirit (Eph. 5:18) and loved the Lord with all my heart?

It would be the most exciting, peaceful, joyful life possible on earth. Imagine being joyful & peaceful no matter the circumstance: no longer striving for success to please the world, no longer seeking acceptance of many (just my God), no longer being characterized by worry, anxiety and stress, no longer managed by busyness and the activities of the world.

Solomon taught us in Ecclesiastes that pursuing power, influence, wealth, entertainment to give satisfaction was chasing after the wind and who has ever caught that? He learned this by pursuing human wisdom to its fullest. He had every resource available to test and he tried them to the full, without lasting satisfaction in life.

We have such a tendency to try to prove Solomon wrong. We say, "I'll be happy when I make more money, when I get married or have children, when I'm in the lead, when I have a vacation home, when I retire and have time, etc. We try to answer our need for satisfaction through worldly fulfillment. There is no lasting satisfaction outside the love of God being full and complete in us. This is how God made us, with hearts that are constantly seeking satisfaction. This satisfaction can be sought from the world as Solomon did or through our relationship with God, which is a gift from Him. (Prov. 3:13; 5:19) God's power, the fruit of the Spirit, being unshackled from sin, and bearing much fruit come from His power in us, for us and through us.

Too often joy is defined as happiness/blessing that is sought by earthly attainment or success. This is not joy! Joy is cheerfulness that comes from God and available every day. Wouldn't it be great if that is how I loved and what others saw? This is determined by the Saturation of the Presence of God!

Being Saturated with the Presence of God: dripping, overflowing, no room for anything else in my heart. This causes me to think, feel, act, have power, and be at peace like Jesus. This is God's intent for me! I make choices, fulfill desires that exhilarate my heart, living life like no other way possible because I am living for/in His presence!

We frustrate ourselves when we call out to God to fix our lives, providing us with things we want, satisfying our definition of success: spiritually, physically, professionally, emotionally and psychologically. Living in the Presence of God, we desire Him, His purposes, and His ways. Our God desires fellowship with us and will not give us gifts that distract us from being intimate with Him. He desires to give us everything, the very best, blessing our lives for now and all eternity! He wants to bless our lives so it will keep us with Him. Our identity won't be caught up in where we live, what we drive or how we look, who our friends are, or what entertainment we last experienced, the vacations we've had but rather whether I am experiencing the fullness of God and overflowing with the Spirit.

The enemy is fooling us that our ways (worldly ways) will find satisfaction and peace. Our plan takes in a little bit of God, including Him in areas of my life. God's plan is inexplicably far superior to that: He is the center of it all, partnering us with His power, bringing wisdom, fruitfulness and joy to His glory, having eternal impact! God's plan is that we love Him the way He loved us, with all affection for Him, yearning for His presence daily. The result is that we will see what He sees. We will live our lives in strategic, valuable, imperishable, fruitfulness.

Unfortunately, we make our spiritual life a duty, determined to fulfill that duty and disciplined to that end. It is without adventure and the power of God. Duty, discipline and determination are not bad things in themselves and need to be in our lives as God meant them: as part of a passionate journey of thirsting and hungering for Him, coming out of the desert experience into the lush adventure He has chosen. As long as the enemy can keep us distracted from trusting Jesus in everything and with everything; he will keep us from having complete intimacy in a victorious Kingdom life. (1 John 5:4) We will miss the abundant life that He desires us to have. The enemy keeps us hamstrung with a divided heart, one foot in the world and the other with Christ. The Lord explained that this doesn't work and that we sacrifice God's abundant life in us and through us.

The choice is ours as to the degree we exhibit the fullness of Christ and His Holy Spirit, experiencing some of what He intended or all of it:

- * being somewhat loving or characterized by love
- * having some joy or joy overflowing
- * some peace or peace no matter my circumstance
- * somewhat happy marriage or oneness in marriage
- * some fun times as a family or purposeful, committed family times continually
- * professional success or professionally excellent and powerful for His Kingdom
- * scattered, miraculous experiences or daily seeing His power active in my life and those He desires to touch through me
- * times of prayer or continual fruitful prayer life
- * some patience or consistent patience because I live His purposes and loving others
- * some goodness when needed or continual goodness that seeps out of my life daily
- * occasional, imperishable fruit or imperishable fruit constantly produced
- * thankfulness when blessed or overflowing thankfulness
- * some hope or overflowing hope because I know He is at work in, for, and through me
- * some faith or a faith that moves mountains
- * some trust in God or trusting everything God said and intends for my life

Without being transformed into His likeness as a result of yearning for SPG, then what? What is God's intent for me? (Eph. 3:14-20) If I am saturated, then I will believe what Jesus said in John 14:12: that I can be like Him and do what He did, even more! How exciting and exhilarating is that? There is nothing to fear here! It is just embracing an adventurous, fully satisfying life that the Lord is offering. Will you thirst and yearn to be saturated with the Presence of God, not allowing anything to get in the way of this taking place in your life?

Is there a need for SPG?

The need can be observed in irreverence for God and His house, the disregard for the Sabbath, the breakdown of the family and marriages, rampant self-love, greed, entitlement thinking,

addictions of all kinds, the tyranny of time, preoccupation with success in every way, the lack of compassion for people, and evil closing in ever increasingly on the Body of Christ.

Consider what our Lord did in the book of Acts through the power of the Holy Spirit. God so empowered Peter, Paul & others, that even their cloaks and shadows would bring healing. People came long distances to hear them, and God granted healing to their hearts and bodies! They were anticipating God's presence. They had faith that great and mighty things would be done. A similar thing took place in America in the 1700-1800's. God showed up in the revivals of Finney, Moody, Wesley, Whitefield and others. Millions were impacted and came to the Lord. This was predicated by some **faithful people believing and praying for revival with all their hearts!**

SPG (the Saturation of the Presence of God – Revival) is taking place now in China, India, Africa, the Muslim world, & Latin America. In Nagaland, (a known head hunting people group, a state in NE India), there has been an amazing spiritual awakening. Today, 95% of the people have become followers of Jesus. Dare we hope for SPG in America today? Will you put your faith into action crying out to God for a spiritual awakening in our nation?

It begins with you, daily reaching out to touch your Lord. You must engage with Him in a different way. It's not about fulfilling your old routine. No, it begins with a new expectation that you yearn to touch the Lord each and every day and stay in touch throughout it. You expect to be in His presence and power every day. You are anticipating Him touching your life every day. Every day is an adventure with the Spirit of God moving in you and through you.

To be in His presence and stay in His presence, it requires not only your passion of being in Him, but also a passion to have and keep a pure heart – a heart that has no affection for the world, freed from:

- living to my will and focus vs. in God's will
- releasing success on earth as being central in my life
- choosing to rid my life of "time activities" that are not vital to what God wants
- living to the audience of one vs. many
- choosing to listen and hear God alone
- choosing to do what He says and wants
- choosing to hate my wrong loves and sin patterns
- choosing to root out any and all woundedness within me
- choosing to turn away from the enemy
- choosing to dwell in His Kingdom now and daily
- choosing to touch the presence of God and asking to be transformed to loving Him with all my heart

You can choose this life right now; your life can be an adventure of living & walking in the Spirit with His power. Don't pass this moment up, you can choose right now that this is how you will live the rest of your life – being continually saturated by the presence of God and having no tolerance of sin in your life. If you do, your life can be characterized by:

THE BLESSINGS OF SPG

When I am Saturated by the Presence of God I am: (Eph. 3:19; 5:18)

- having a bursting joy & peace that passes all understanding, no matter my circumstance
- having a love for God that is full of affection & passion for His presence

- having a faith that moves mountains & heals my broken heart as well as others
- having a patience that is long suffering & steadfast without selfish agenda
- having a meekness/humility and mildness that cares for God's people naturally
- having a goodness that comes from an upright heart
- having a gentleness from moral goodness and integrity
- having self-control that is without excessiveness in thought, action or feeling
- experiencing every spiritual blessing
- being in the presence of God continually
- wrong desires passing away
- in the middle of the will of God continually
- being "in Him" and not sinning
- confessing and repenting immediately upon recognition of sin, remaining in His presence
- bearing store houses of imperishable fruit
- experiencing freedom from sin and freedom without feeling restraint and obligation, but love in action
- having a thirsting hope for the return of Jesus
- having burning compassion for the lost
- experiencing holiness often
- being one with the Father and the Son
- being one in my marriage and family
- without sinful cravings in me
- without dissensions from me
- without jealousy
- without coveting
- without sinful ambition
- without hate
- without deceit
- without participating in factions
- without malice
- without hypocrisy
- without boasting
- without lusting
- without false witness and slander
- without haughty eyes
- without manipulation and scheming
- without discord from me
- without anxiousness
- without worry and stress
- without lying
- without pride
- loving my enemies
- overflowing in thankfulness
- always in joyful obedience
- full of generosity
- giving grace
- compassionate at just the right times
- righteousness of God bubbling over
- justice at the right moments

- loving others deeply
- finding satisfaction in life, which is a gift from God

All of this is possible in us only by being full of the Spirit of God; it is a gift from God.

These are the things that characterize us when we love the Lord
with all our hearts (with all affection). We will be overflowing with the Spirit.
We will have unquenchable passion for our Lord and be like Jesus in every way.
We will attract many to the heart of Jesus.

Is this your greatest hope in life?

Is this your greatest hope for your church?

Eph 3:18,19 And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge — that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. (NIV)

Eph 5:18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. (NIV)

John 14:12 I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. (NIV)

2 Cor. 3:18 And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. (NIV)

Matt 22:37 Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." (NIV)

Rom 8:5 Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. (NIV)

1 John 1:3 We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. (NIV)

1 Peter 1:15 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." (NIV)

Why not make a commitment today that you are going to live like this daily? You will not allow life on earth to get in the way of being in His presence. Go ahead, make a covenant with God that His plan will bring you joy and hope.

Perhaps your covenant might read like this:

I, _____, desire to experience Your abundant life and I know the only way is to seek Your presence with all my heart. I am devoted to the journey of living and arriving at Your heart.