



SPG SERIES – Study 4 Remaining “In Him”

Do you have unquenchable passion for the things below?

- having overflowing joy
 - peace that passes all understanding
 - power within me that moves mountains
 - intimacy with God where I sense His presence and saturation daily
- ...these are the things we **thirst for every day!** We are practicing this thirsting through recognizing daily God’s presence in our lives through our 3-3-1 exercise. Imagine what our future life can be like when we are in fellowship with the Father and the Son (being in His presence). 1 John 1:3,4

If we begin each day:

- confessing and repenting of the sin I engaged in to have a pure heart
- if I recognize how God has worked in & through me
- if I remember and thirst for all God offers us

then your opportunity for having a blessed day is hugely increased! Wouldn’t it be fantastic if we could stay that way throughout the whole day?

In this study, we will increase our unquenchable passion for Him through remaining in Him, remaining in fellowship and in His presence.

—So you must remain faithful to what you have been taught from the beginning.

If you do, you will remain in fellowship with the Son and with the Father.

And in this fellowship, we enjoy the eternal life He promised us.†

1 John 2:24 NLT

Remain means to stay —in Him†. Consider this: if we view each day as a lifetime and in that lifetime we get to demonstrate loving God with all of our heart, impassioned and blessed by God in every way, always doing Kingdom work wherever I am, rejoicing in the promise of eternal life...wow! We cannot take this message of thirsting to be in fellowship daily, (in His presence) lightly. 1 John 1:3 We must begin each day with Him and fellowship throughout each day. As we see in John 15 it refers to **remaining in the vine**, we too often think about that as being throughout a lifetime rather than in **daily worship & fellowship with God** one day at a time! It is our wrong loves, addictions, sin patterns, wounds, anti-Christ’s, and the enemy that cause us not to remain. Your sustenance is given through each day for the health of the vine. If we don’t remain in Him, we cannot receive. Have you decided that fellowship with the Father & the Son is worth —everything†? The pure heart (consecrated heart) and yearning for this fellowship of being in the Presence of God is the very heartbeat of life! The degree to which we entrust all things to God will reflect the degree of our passion for Him. This means we will thirst for a fellowship, being in His Presence constantly. Ponder this. What is God saying to you?

The degree of God’s grace that we can receive will be minimized if our heart is filled with other things! (1 John 5:21) If you choose to go on this journey half-heartedly, you are establishing another —behavior| within cultural Christianity, characterized by —activity| not by love for Him. Wrong agenda!!

Add to this the idea of remaining —in Him|.

1 John 2:18-29 (NLT)

18 Dear children, the last hour is here. You have heard that the Antichrist is coming, and already many such antichrists have appeared. From this we know that the last hour has come. 19 These people left our churches, but they never really belonged with us; otherwise they would have stayed with us. When they left, it proved that they did not belong with us.

20 But you are not like that, for the Holy One has given you his Spirit, and all of you know the truth. 21 So I am writing to you not because you don't know the truth but because you know the difference between truth and lies. 22 And who is a liar? Anyone who says that Jesus is not the Christ. Anyone who denies the Father and the Son is an antichrist. 23 Anyone who denies the Son doesn't have the Father, either. But anyone who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

24 So you must remain faithful to what you have been taught from the beginning. If you do, you will remain in fellowship with the Son and with the Father. 25 And in this fellowship we enjoy the eternal life he promised us. 26 I am writing these things to warn you about those who want to lead you astray. 27 But you have received the Holy Spirit, and he lives within you, so you don't need anyone to teach you what is true. For the Spirit teaches you everything you need to know, and what he teaches is true—it is not a lie. So just as he has taught you, remain in fellowship with Christ.

28 And now, dear children, remain in fellowship with Christ so that when he returns, you will be full of courage and not shrink back from him in shame. 29 Since we know that Christ is righteous, we also know that all who do what is right are God's children.

Assignment: Underline **anti-Christ, Holy Spirit, truth & true, fellowship, remain, warn** in the above scriptures.

These are the strategic words in this section of scripture. The main subject here is remaining in fellowship (in His Presence). In fact, it says in vs. 24 that you must remain faithful. To have unquenchable passion for the Presence of God, there are obstacles to staying constantly in Him:

1. warning against being led astray from remaining in fellowship by anti-christs

Here are some warning verses to —watch out, be alert and guard yourself from being taken astray|:
Prov. 4:13, 23; Matt. 7:15; Mark 13:5; Luke 12:15; Acts 20:31; Rom. 16:17; 1 Peter 5:8 Journal your thoughts on these verses.

As you can see these are examples of the many different ways you can be distracted & led astray, whether by man or the enemy. The enemy has a whole arsenal of buttons to push that reflect your wrong loves. Unless you stay preoccupied and passionate about being in the Presence of God, you will be carried away and you will fall. Unless you are abandoned to the idea of

confessing and repenting that you have been carried away at any moment, you are removed from His Presence until you have a pure heart again. You must remain in Him to remain in fellowship.

2. The scripture is encouraging you in 1 John 2: 20 that you have the Holy Spirit and the truth, so you know the difference between truth and lies. In vs. 27 you have received the Holy Spirit and He lives in you and teaches you everything, therefore, you have no need for anyone to teach you, especially an anti-Christ. Clearly John is encouraging you by the power you have within you that you are victors over this world and the enemy. (1 John 4:4, 5:4) Do not shy away but be courageous in the power that lies within you, remain in Him and He will remain in you.

How are you most easily distracted? How does the enemy come at you?

Stop and ask the Lord to come in and take authority over this issue in your life.

3. Eager expectation: listen, passionately follow.

See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are! But the people who belong to this world don't recognize that we are God's children because they don't know him. Dear friends, we are already God's children, but he has not yet shown us what we will be like when Christ appears. But we do know that we will be like him, for we will see him as he really is. And all who have this eager expectation will keep themselves pure, just as he is pure. Everyone who sins is breaking God's law, for all sin is contrary to the law of God. And you know that Jesus came to take away our sins, and there is no sin in him. Anyone who continues to live in him will not sin. But anyone who keeps on sinning does not know him or understand who he is. Dear children, don't let anyone deceive you about this: When people do what is right, it shows that they are righteous, even as Christ is righteous. But when people keep on sinning, it shows that they belong to the devil, who has been sinning since the beginning. But the Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil. Those who have been born into God's family do not make a practice of sinning, because God's life is in them. So they can't keep on sinning, because they are children of God. So now we can tell who are children of God and who are children of the devil. Anyone who does not live righteously and does not love other believers does not belong to God.

1 John 3:1-10

Assignment: Underline **children, eager expectation, pure, sin, sins, sinning, continues to live in Him, keeps on sinning, belong to the devil, do not make a practice of sinning, can't keep on sinning, not belong to God** in the above scripture.

Make observations on what God is saying to you concerning these verses:

What are the 2 most common continual sins that God wants you to deal with?

Pray and ask Jesus to help and heal you of this sin.

Think of living this consecrated & fellowshiping life, keeping our hearts pure, doing what God wants us to do, being empowered...this is living in Him and belonging to God.

Consider the importance of remaining in fellowship. Without it, we are without His power! We are operating in this life under our own strength only. If you do not stay in His Presence, you can't walk in His light. An illustration of this might be:

You have an IV connected to you and the IV represents God's power working in and through you. The IV is disconnected the moment sin (not remaining in Him) is chosen. You can stop and repent, have the IV plugged back in, but it requires a huge awareness of how vital God's constant presence is. You can live the life of remaining, but you must want it, recognize how vital it is, more than anything! Charles Finney in the 1850's (one of the greatest U.S. evangelists) was travelling from one church to the next, talking with the Lord. The question he asked was —Why wasn't the last church meeting as powerful as the previous one?! The message came to him: he had not remained in the Spirit. He immediately stopped, entered the woods, and repented until His heart was pure. He then sensed the empowerment of the Spirit. We can live this life with unquenchable passion to be in fellowship with the Father and Son, continually! It will continue to grow in you, and your success of being in God's presence will increase.

Let's summarize the past 4 Studies on Unquenchable Passion:

1. Yearning to be in fellowship & in His Presence: Who He is and all that He wants in our life.
2. Keep your heart pure by confessing and covenanting not to sin again, daily & immediately.
3. Remain —in Him!, keep vigilant every day.
 - A. Stay free of anti-Christ that distracts
 - B. You have the Holy Spirit that empowers you, utilize Him and defeat enemy attacks and receive power in what you are doing & how you are serving.
 - C. Eager expectation of fellowship.

What conclusions have you made?

Application Assignment: continue the daily journaling on the 3-3-1 Principle of what God is doing in your life.