

# Living Without an Orphan Spirit

---

## I. The first disciples learned to live as sons and daughters through the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus promises not to leave us as orphans (John 14:5-18).

- A. The religious leaders of Jesus' Day recognized Peter and John as men who "had been with Jesus" (Acts 4:13-16).
  - 1. This was no accident. Jesus trained them to be bold, just as He trains us to be bold (Acts 3:1-10; Matthew 10:5-10).
  - 2. Jesus baptizes us with the Spirit just as He did the first disciples (Acts 1:4-8; 2:1-4).
  - 3. Like Peter, repeated encounters with the Holy Spirit release us to do what Jesus would do (Acts 4:8-13). After Peter and John were released from jail, the believers asked for boldness, and look what happened (Acts 4:29-31)! We can experience this!
- B. The orphan spirit: living as if there is never enough
  - 1. Living out of abundance (Luke 6:37-38; John 10:10)
    - a. How much money does it take to heal a blind man (Acts 3:6)?
    - b. "You give them something to eat" (Luke 9:12-17).
  - 2. The world will be changed by people who freely give out of a constant supply of God's love, even when they suffer. We are heirs of a supernatural Father (Romans 8:14-17).

## II. An orphan spirit disconnects us from the supernatural Body of Christ.

- A. You do not walk alone. If you have a Father in God, you also have brothers and sisters who can be empowered by God.
- B. Other believers define us, refine us, and speak God's love over us (Ephesians 4:15-16).
- C. Living together as the dwelling place of God (Ephesians 2:19-22).
  - 1. "Dwelling" suggests ownership and the manifest presence of God.
  - 2. The first experiences of the Early Church say it all (Acts 2:42-47; 4:32-35).
  - 3. When God supernaturally touches us, we can touch our community.

## III. Cultivating a joyful, powerful Kingdom culture

- A. Believe in a supernatural Father "who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not" (Romans 4:17).
- B. Enter the joy of the Lord. Release His passion for the world with signs and wonders (Luke 15:1-7; Matthew 10:7-8; Isaiah 35:3-6).
- C. Identify hopeless thinking. Where there is hopelessness, there is a lie.
- D. Practice prayer, worship, and thankfulness (I Thessalonians 5:16-19).
- E. Live off the Word of God and its promises (Matthew 4:4).
- F. Embrace the Body of Christ. It will cause your destiny to flourish (Ephesians 4:11-16; Isaiah 35:3-6).

*Mike Hudgins  
December 10, 2023*