

Mystical 1

Life in the Spirit

Water and Spirit

“If the Holy Spirit was withdrawn from the church today, 95 percent of what we do would go on and no one would know the difference. If the Holy Spirit had been withdrawn from the New Testament church, 95 percent of what they did would stop, and everybody would know the difference” **A.W. Tozer**

David Kinnaman, unChristian: What a New Generation Really Thinks about Christianity... and Why It Matters

“Most people in America, **when they are exposed to the Christian faith, are not being transformed.** They take one step into the door, and the journey ends. They are not being allowed, encouraged, or equipped to love or to think like Christ. Yet in many ways a focus on **spiritual formation fits what a new generation is really seeking.** Transformation is a process, a journey, not a one-time decision.”

David Kinnaman, unChristian: What a New Generation Really Thinks about Christianity... and Why It Matters

“What are Christians known for? Outsiders think our **moralizing**, our **condemnations**, and our attempts to draw boundaries around everything. Even if these standards are accurate and biblical, **they seem to be all we have to offer**. And our lives are a poor advertisement for the standards. We have set the game board to register lifestyle points; then we are surprised to be trapped by our mistakes. **The truth is we have invited the hypocrite image.**”

behavioural modification vs spiritual transformation

David Kinnaman, unChristian: What a New Generation Really Thinks about Christianity... and Why It Matters

“Surprisingly, the Christian faith today is perceived as **disconnected from the supernatural world** – a dimension that the vast majority of outsiders believe can be accessed and influenced.”

Definition: Merriam-Webster

mys·ti·cal
'mistək(ə)l/

a : having a **spiritual meaning or reality** that is neither apparent to the senses nor obvious to the intelligence

b : involving or having the nature of an **individual's direct subjective communion with God** or ultimate reality

Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no
one can see the kingdom of God
unless they are **born again.**” John 3:3

Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no
one can enter the kingdom of God unless
they are born of **water** and the
Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the
Spirit gives birth to spirit.” vs 5-6

Acts 19

While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus. There he found some **disciples** and asked them, “**Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?**” vs 1-2

They answered, “No, we have not even heard that there is a **Holy Spirit.**”

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to Samaria. When they arrived, they prayed for the **new believers** there that they might receive the Holy Spirit, **because the Holy Spirit had not yet come on any of them;** they had **simply** been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. **Acts 8:14-16**

Acts 19

So Paul asked, “Then what baptism did you receive?” “**John’s baptism,**” they replied. **vs 3**

Paul said, “John’s baptism was **a baptism of repentance.** He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus.” **vs 4**

John's Baptism

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea and saying, “**Repent**, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

Matthew 3:1-2

“**I baptize you with water for repentance.** But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the **Holy Spirit and fire.**” **vs 11**

John's Baptism

Repentance-To feel remorse, contrition, or self-reproach for what one has done or failed to do; be contrite. To feel such regret for past conduct as to change one's mind regarding it

Lessons From Acts 19

Ignorance of the Holy Spirit was and is wide spread

The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit. The person with the Spirit makes judgments about all things, but such a person is not subject to merely human judgments, for, “Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ. 1 Corinthians 2:14-16

Lessons From Acts 19

Repentance is only the beginning,
not the process or the end

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are **being transformed** into his image with **ever-increasing glory**, which comes from the Lord, who is **the Spirit**. **1 Corinthians 3:17-18**

faith is movement, spiritual death is stagnation

Lessons From Acts 19

The Spirit brings change. If my/yours/our lives resembles everyone else's, maybe we have stopped encountering God

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. **When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit,** who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

Ephesians 1:13-14

Lessons From Acts 19

When we become a disciple of Christ, we get the Spirit.

Every day after that, the Spirit wants to get more of us

Past/Present

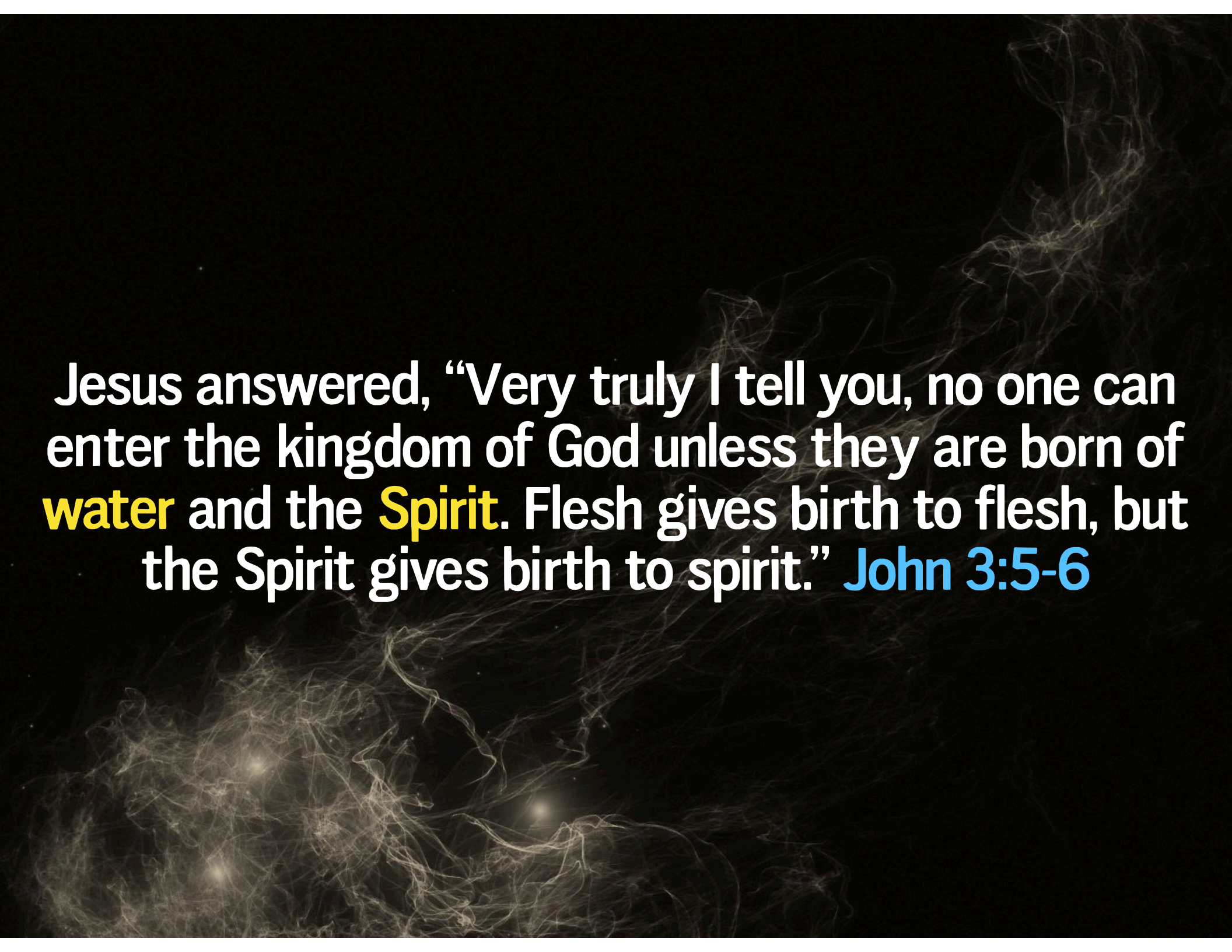
At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another.

Encounter/Repentance

But when the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.

Power/Process

He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Titus 3:3-6**



Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of **water** and the **Spirit**. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.” **John 3:5-6**