

# Energizing Your Spiritual Senses

## Part 1

### Spirit Dominance

- Rom 8:9, “You, however, are controlled not by the [*sarx*] but by the [spirit], if the Spirit of God lives in you.”
  - How is the effectiveness of our spiritual senses related to the maturity or strength of our spirits?

### Practical Steps

- Be receptive to God’s work in you
  - Heb 13:20-21, “May the God of peace . . . work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ.”
    - Who is doing the work and what is his goal, according to this verse?
  - 1 Ptr 1:1-2, “To God’s elect . . . who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ.”
    - Who is doing the work and what is the nature of that work?
    - sanctification (Gk, *hagiasmos*): (1) holiness, i.e., dedication to the Lord; (2) dedication to moral purity
    - How does sanctification relate to our obedience to Jesus?
  - Eph 4:22, 24, “You were taught . . . to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.”
    - What does this verse suggest the ultimate goal of putting on the new self might be?
    - righteousness (Gk, *dikaiosyne*): righteousness, what is right, justice
    - holiness (Gk, *hosiotes*): (1) divine quality of holiness; (2) dedication, consecration, state of being dedicated to God
    - What is the relationship between holiness & sanctification?
  - 2 Co 3:18, “And we . . . are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory.”
    - likeness (Gk, *eikon*): (1) image, portrait; (2) likeness, same form as something else; (3) representation, pattern
  - God’s ultimate goal for you is to transform you into his image.
  - What is God’s will for you?

- How do you think your spiritual senses will function as you're increasingly transformed into God's image?
- Explain how becoming increasingly like God — which includes becoming spiritually strong and having functional spiritual senses — will affect your activity in the spiritual realm.
- Why it's important to allow God to make me increasingly like him:
  
- prayer: Father, I want to grow and become spiritually mature. I will pursue you no matter what. As much as I know how, I'm opening the door to you and inviting you to do whatever you want in me.
- Repent
  - What is definition of "repent"?
  - What do you think about in your spare time?
  - When you realize you're thinking about all these self-centered things, need to aggressively change what you think about:
  - Php 4:8, "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable — if anything is excellent or praiseworthy — think about such things."
- Eliminate internal contamination
  - 2 Co 7:1, "Since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God."
    - purify (Gk, *katharizo*): (1) cleanse, make clean; (2) purify ceremonially by washing
    - [everything that] contaminates (Gk, *molusmos*): defilement, ritual and/or moral contamination

<sup>6:14</sup> Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? <sup>15</sup> What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? <sup>16</sup> What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people."

<sup>17</sup> “Therefore come out from them  
and be separate,  
says the Lord.

Touch no unclean thing,  
and I will receive you.”

<sup>18</sup> “I will be a Father to you,  
and you will be my sons and daughters,  
says the Lord Almighty.”

<sup>7:1</sup> Since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify  
ourselves from everything that contaminates body and  
spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.

- problem: spiritual contamination/pollution
- problem: disobedience, continuing sin
- problem: self-centeredness

### **Blessing**

- May the Holy Spirit reveal any areas in which you’re  
not receptive to God’s work in you, you need to repent,  
or you need to eliminate internal contamination.