

Yielding to the Holy Spirit

MMBC

#6 Have Your Way Holy Spirit

May 9, 2018

Review

Have YOUR way Holy Spirit!

Discussion Starter:

You may not or may not be familiar with the name Adelaide A. Pollard. In 1902, she, a hymn writer, had her heart set on going to Africa and serving as a missionary. Unfortunately, she was unable to raise the necessary funds. She found herself greatly discouraged; she attended a prayer service one evening and as she sat there, she overheard an elderly woman say, *"It really doesn't matter what you do with us, Lord, just have your own way with our lives."* The elderly woman inspired Pollard and she read the story of the potter from Jeremiah 18:3 and, upon her return home that evening, wrote all four stanzas before retiring for the night.

**Have Thine own way Lord
Have Thine own way
Thou art the potter I am the clay
Mold me and make me after Thy will
While I am waiting yielded and still**

Have you conceded? Have you surrendered to the Holy Spirit's divine purpose for your life?

If not, why?

Consider the Angel Gabriel's visit to Mary. Read Luke 1:26-38.

What question did Mary have in verse 34?

What was the angel's response in verse 35? "The _____ shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God."

What was Mary's response in verse 36 as to what the HOLY SPIRIT was going to do in her life?

Notice a few things about Mary we find the narrative:

1. She was considered highly favored.
2. There was fear in her heart.
3. There were questions in her mind.
4. Mary submitted.

Think about this disruption in her life. What about her own goals and aspirations? What about the criticism and scorn she would receive? How would she explain what she didn't fully understand herself? Mary was a teenager who was engaged to be married.

What question do you have? It's also okay to be afraid. However, you can still say, YES to the Holy Spirit's will for your life! What's keeping you from submitting?

Consider the call of Saul/Paul. Read Acts 9:1-

What was Saul on his way to do?

Do you think he had any idea as to who he would meet on that day?

What happened?

Discuss Paul's response in verse 5 and write it here.

Paul's question was his way of surrendering.

For Paul, this question was a starting point, a new journey, a new chapter in his life. What about his own plans? Did they really matter at this point? Paul was saying "yes" to the Holy Spirit plan and purpose for his life. God knew both Saul and Paul!

As we see throughout the book of Acts Paul, from this point forward, did exactly what the Holy Spirit wanted him to do.

Mary's calling was unique and so was the Apostle Paul's. God has a plan and purpose for your life. Listen to the voice for of the Holy Spirit. Discern His voice and obey!

Don't be discouraged by thinking you've made too many bad choices in your life. God uses us despite our bad choices. Romans 8:28 includes our bad choices as believers. Yet in still, God is able to use us for His glory. Remember the Holy Spirit has the circumstances already worked out.

Finally, consider the story of Philip and Eunuch in Acts 8. We will only consider the initial verses.

Look closely at Acts 8:26-27.

Consider where Philip was before he was told to go to Gaza.

Consider the progress he was making in Samaria (Acts 8:8). Apparently, they were doing well. The Bible says there was great JOY in that city.

Where did the Holy Spirit direct him to go in verse 26?

How many questions did Philip ask in the text?

Whom would he have missed if he would have remained in Samaria?

What ministry opportunity are you missing when you are not obedient to the Holy Spirit.

As we come to a close, let us remember what it meant for our Lord Jesus Christ to say those words ('Not my will, but Thy will be done'). Let us remember what it cost Him to do the Father's will. And let us then ask Him for strength and grace to help us yield to His purpose and His plan for our lives.