

Homework
Session Four: But You, Beloved

1. We began Session Four by noting the differences between two words that signify breath: *psychikos*, meaning **natural, physical breath shared with all living creatures**, and *pneuma*, which largely relates to the **characteristics of the Holy Spirit**. Read James 3:13-18 and make two lists distinguishing between earthly and heavenly wisdom. In your own words, share how the meanings of *breath* relate to these two types of wisdom.

2. John 20 details the events that took place after Jesus' resurrection and appearance to the disciples. Read John 20:19-23. Why do you think Jesus breathed on them?

- a. What did Jesus say to them right before he did this? Read Acts 1:8. What do we need in order to be Christ's witnesses?

3. Read Romans 7:14-25. We can understand from Paul's agonizing that there are two laws at work within those regenerated and born again (from vv 21-23). From where, physically within the body, do we actually begin to serve God? Why is this important to understand?

4. When we are in a spiritual battle, we must remember to bring *"every thought into captivity"* according to 2 Corinthians 10:3-6. Read that passage. Can you give an example of how you've followed the directives of these scriptures during a personal trial? If not, write a short prayer or declaration to God to help enact these steps within your faith walk.

5. Jude v20 is full of active verbs, giving examples of how we are to maintain our lives with God: building, praying, keeping, and looking. The word for *build* is *epoikodomeō*, meaning **to build, as in the construction of a house**. What is the most important aspect in building a house safely and properly? (Hint: you can Google this question for the answer:-)) Why is this most important?

a. Read Matthew 7:21-27. Give three examples of how you build your faith “on the rock.”

6. According to Jude v20 we are to “*pray in the Holy Spirit*.” Read Romans 8:18-27. There are at least six benefits to praying in the Spirit (from vv 26-27). Can you list all of them?

7. Jude 20-21 deals with our personal lives with God, while vv 22-23 deals with how we relate God to others. On some, we are to “*have compassion, making a distinction*,” meaning that we may need extra care when approaching someone; and on others we are to “*save with fear, pulling them out of the fire*.” Have you ever shared Christ by using either method (or by a method somewhere in the middle)? Briefly share your experience. Would you have changed anything about how you shared? Why or why not?

a. If you don't have a witnessing experience to yet share, take a moment to ask God to empower you with His grace and ability. YOU are a minister of reconciliation according to 2 Corinthians 5 (specifically, vv 17-21). Write your prayer below.