

1. **Introduction:** A day on Venus -

1. On Earth, a sidereal days last 23 hours 56 minutes and 4.1 seconds, whereas a solar day lasts exactly 24 hours. In Venus' case, it takes a whopping 243.025 days for the planet to rotate once on its axis – which is the longest rotational period of any planet in the Solar System. In addition, it rotates in the opposite the direction in which it orbits around the Sun (which it takes about 224.7 Earth days to complete).

2. **Sermon Series Overview** -

1. Something Essential is Missing - Need for God's presence via the Holy Spirit
2. 3 attitudes towards God - Hot, Cold, Lukewarm
3. Necessity of Daily Conversion
4. **Key Text:** "And He was saying to them all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross **daily** and follow Me."For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake, he is the one who will save it."For what is a man profited if he gains the whole world, and loses or forfeits himself?"For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when He comes in His glory, and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels."But I say to you truthfully, there are some of those standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God.'" (Luke 9:23–27 NAS95)

5. **Illustration:** Daily Cycles = Circadian Rhythm

1. "A circadian rhythm is a natural, internal process that regulates the sleep-wake cycle and repeats on each rotation of the Earth roughly every 24 hours." - Wikipedia
2. "Neither the physical nor the spiritual life remains automatically in us. It is necessary to use the means that God has provided for us." Haubeil pg. 62

3. **Illustration** - "Lord, If It's Not Too Late"

Years ago a unique character was converted in the Water Street Mission in New York. It was "the Old Colonel." Through drink he had sunk very low.

At the time of his conversion he was sixty years old. He looked as if he were one hundred. He looked more like an animal than a human being. He was clothed in rags. The overcoat he wore was fastened with a nail. "Old Bill" was a caricature of the man he had been—a college graduate and a brilliant law student in the office of E. M. Stanton, Lincoln's Secretary of War.

On the night of his conversion, he cried, "O Lord, if it is not too late, forgive and save this poor old sinner!" God heard the cry of his heart. He was gloriously saved. God restored his intellect. That which had been his greatest love and had almost ruined his life—strong drink—became his greatest hate. He became an honored and beloved Christian gentleman! —Walter B. Knight

4. **Concept** - In the Lord's prayer Jesus urged His disciples to seek "daily bread" luke 11:3

1. **Commentary** - "Give us day by day our daily bread" (Luke 11:3). Luke's version of the Model Prayer emphasizes the need for constant dependence on the Lord. This need is clearly stated in Matthew. It is more strongly underlined here. -Richards, L. (1998). Every prayer in the Bible. Includes indexes. (142).
2. **Quote** - "If we would develop a character which God can accept, we must form correct habits in our religious life. Daily prayer is as essential to growth in grace, and even to spiritual life itself, as is temporal food to physical well-being." - AG 289
3. **Quote:** - "For the daily baptism of the Spirit every worker should offer his petition to God." - AA pg. 50
4. **Concept** - Common Hindrances to daily conversion -
 1. **Ignorance** – We haven't devoted ourselves enough to the topic of »life with the Holy Ghost« or we haven't found the key for putting it into prac- tice.

2. **Unbelief or Small Faith** –Being filled with the Holy Ghost has the prerequisite of completely surrendering our lives to Jesus Christ. This too could happen because of ignorance, or maybe because we are afraid that the Lord will lead us differently than what we want. This means that we don't trust God's love and wisdom enough.
3. **Erroneous Notions**–A person can think they are filled with the Holy Spirit, even though they aren't in reality or not sufficiently. This seems to be the most frequent problem.
4. **Being too Busy** – People are so overburdened that they think they don't have any or enough time to maintain a relationship with Christ. Or they take the time, but don't make any progress in connecting with God.
5. **Hidden Sins** - perhaps missing reparation – this is like a short-circuit, meaning there is no connection with God's power.
6. **Act mostly according to their feelings** - God's word says: "The righteous live by faith". Do I make decisions by trusting God or according to my feelings?
5. **Quote** - "The spirits would encourage people to listen to their feelings instead of the word of Christ and His prophets. In no surer way could the spirits obtain control of people's lives without the individuals realizing what was happening." Roger Morneau - *A Trip Into the Supernatural* pg. 43
6. **Concept** - Jesus urges us to be united to Him
 1. **Text** - "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing." (John 15:4–5 NAS95)
 2. **Quote** - "Jesus said that discipleship is a daily matter. To deny oneself means giving Jesus the

control over my life. Carrying a cross doesn't mean that we will have difficulties every day. Here it means: to daily deny our egos and to submit gladly and willingly to Jesus – just as Paul said about himself: "I die daily." When someone carried a cross in Jesus' day, then he had been sentenced to death and was going to the place of execution. So it also has to do with accepting difficulties, which arise from following Jesus." - Helmut Haubeil pg. 48

3. Natural & Spiritual Life sustained by God -
 1. **Quote**: "As in the natural, so in the spiritual world. The natural life is preserved moment by moment by divine power; yet it is not sustained by a direct miracle, but through the use of blessings placed within our reach. So the spiritual life is sustained by the use of those means that Providence has supplied." Acts of the Apostles pg. 284
 2. **Quote**: "To follow Jesus requires wholehearted conversion at the start, and a repetition of this conversion everyday." The Desire of Ages pg. 313
4. **Anecdote** - Honeymoon story of the glitch in the Ken Cox sermon where the "morning & evening" phrase would loop and repeat.
 1. The ceremonies of the earthly sanctuary give us clues to understand the cycles of life that God wishes to join us in.
 1. **Quote**: "The hours appointed for the morning and the evening sacrifice were regarded as sacred, and they came to be observed as the set time for worship throughout the Jewish nation ... In this custom Christians have an example for morning and evening prayer. While God condemns a mere round of ceremonies, without the spirit of worship, He looks with

great pleasure upon those who love Him, bowing morning and evening to seek pardon for sins committed and to present their requests for needed blessings. “ Patriarchs & Prophets pg. 353

5. **Illustration** - Seven Breakfasts
6. **Concept** - Worshipping in Spirit & Truth - ““God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”” (John 4:24 NAS95)
 1. **Quote** - “To worship in spirit certainly means to worship consciously, but also to be filled with the Holy Ghost. To worship in truth means living in complete surrender to Jesus, who is the truth in person.” Haubeil pg. 56
 2. **Text:** “The one who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. We know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.” (1 John 3:24 NAS95)
7. Without the Holy Spirit, the effectiveness of the gospel is limited -
 1. **Quote:** “This means that even the effectiveness of Christ’s work for people is dependent on the Holy Ghost. Without Him everything Jesus did on this earth – in Gethsemane, on the cross, the resurrection and His priestly ministry in heaven – would be unsuccessful. The outcome of Christ’s work wouldn’t be much more useful than that of some big world religion or ethical leader. But although Christ was much more than these, He couldn’t save humanity alone through His example and teachings. To change people it was necessary to work in them. This work is done by the Holy Ghost, who was sent to do this in people’s hearts, which Jesus had made possible.” -Thomas Davis - *How to be a Victorious Christian*
8. **Text:** “Do this, knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now salvation is

nearer to us than when we believed.” (Romans 13:11 NAS95)

9. **Self-Assessment & Appeal:** AM I FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT?
 1. Please ask yourself the following questions about being filled with the Holy Ghost -
 2. Are there any noticeable effects of the Holy Ghost in my life? For example, has He made Jesus real and great to you? (John 15:16)
Am I starting to hear and understand the inner voice of the Holy Ghost? Can He lead me in the big and little decisions in my life? (Rom. 8:14)
 3. Has a new kind of love for my fellow man arisen in me? Does the Holy Ghost give me tender compassion and profound concern for people, who I wouldn’t normally choose as my friends? (Gal. 5:22; James 2:8,9) Do I experience again and again how the Holy Ghost helps me to deal with my fellow men? Does He give me the right words to reach a person’s heart, who has worries and cares?
 4. Does the Holy Ghost give me strength to share about Jesus and lead others to Him?
Do I experience how He helps me in my prayer life and helps me to express the deepest feelings of my heart to God?
 5. When we think about these questions, we see what a great need we have to grow in the Holy Ghost, to get to know Him better and to love Him more.
10. **Appeal Prayer** - “Lord Jesus, I thank you that you want to remain in me through the Holy Ghost. Thank you that through daily surrender our trust and love relationship is growing. Lord, help me to get to know the Holy Spirit and His work better. I long to know what He wants to do for me, my family and my church and how we can have the assurance that we can receive the Holy Ghost when we daily ask. Thank you for this.”
Amen