# What is the purpose of the Church?

### Ephesians 3:10-11

[Jesus'] purpose was that now, **through** the church, the manifold (varied) wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms\*, according to the eternal purpose that He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.

\*1 Peter 1:12

### Ephesians 3:20-21

Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

### How do we achieve this?

# How is this achieved in us?

#### Ephesians 3:16-19

I ask [pray] that out of the riches of His glory (1) He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, (2) so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. Then you, (3) being rooted and grounded in love, will have power, together with all the saints, to comprehend the length and width and height and depth of the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge, that you may be (4) filled with all the fullness of God.

1. Strengthened with power through His Spirit in our inner being

- A. What do you think this means?
- B. What does it look like?
- C. How is it attained?



# **1.** Strengthened with power through His Spirit in our inner being

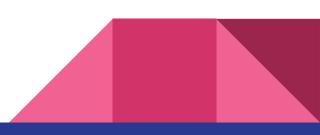
Romans 8:10-11 And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit, who lives in you.

Romans 8:12 Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation\*, but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it.

Romans 8:14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

# 1. Strengthened with power through His Spirit in our inner being

- A. What do you think this means?
- B. What does it look like?
- C. How is it attained?
- D. What does this lead to?



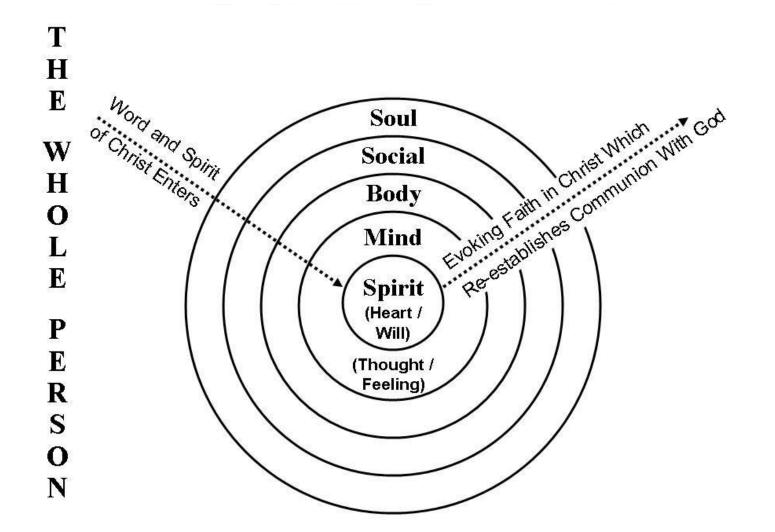
#### Ephesians 3:16-19

I ask [pray] that out of the riches of His glory (1) He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, (2) so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.

#### 2. Christ to dwell in our hearts through faith

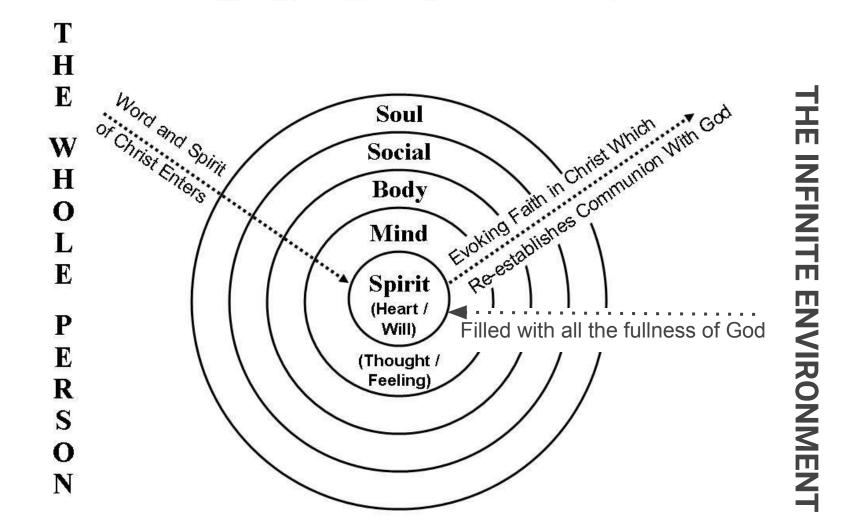
### A. How does living by the Spirit, enable Christ to dwell in our hearts through faith?





Spiritual transformation only happens as each essential dimension of the human being is transformed to Christlikeness under the direction of a regenerate will interacting with constant overtures of grace from God. Such transformation is not the result of mere human effort and cannot be accomplished by putting pressure on the will (heart, spirit) alone.

### **Dallas Willard**



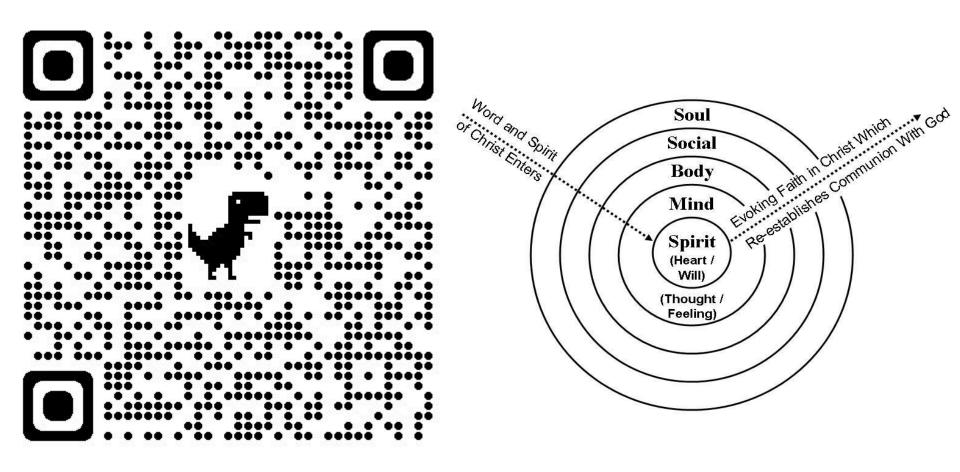
 Within which aspect has the Spirit been leading you to be more faithful?

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- 2. Which of the Spiritual W Disciplines have H been/could be helpful in leading you to christlike L transformation, and E how? P
- 3. Do you have a VIM for E this area?
- 4. Homework: Complete S the above exercise for all other aspects of The Whole Person.

### Infinite Environment







Vision	Vision of the good to be achieved
	E.g. To live life to the full in the Kingdom of God
Intention	Values we need to commit to to achieve the good. E.g. Life through Christ and faith in Christ
Means	What we can do to foster transformation E.g. Obedience and spiritual disciplines & practices