Romans 8:11

Today I would like to merely emphasize Sunday's message regarding the resurrected life. It is a life that lives within every Christian. A life for so many lies dormant for too long. The power of God's Holy Spirit lives in us and we should do all we can to access that power every day of our lives.

We have heard as well as read the scripture in Genesis that tells us we are made in the image of God. Let us be clear: God is Spirit. One of the places this is told to us is in John's Gospel when Jesus is speaking to the woman at the well. Jesus tells us those who worship God must worship Him in Spirit and in Truth. This is the only way God can be worshiped. This is the only way we can communicate with God is with our spirits.

God has given each of us the capacity to seek Him spiritually. There is no other way God can be found. God cannot be reached via anything with a material format. You cannot discover God or accept Jesus Christ by acquiring degrees. You must seek God by giving yourself to Jesus Christ spiritually. This means you must subordinate your spirit to His Spirit. You must decrease so God's Holy Spirit can increase. This is the beginning of the resurrected life. The rest of the resurrected life is developed by daily surrendering more and more of ourselves to Jesus Christ.

A beggar had been sitting by the side of a road for over thirty years. One day a stranger walked by. "Spare some change?" mumbled the

beggar, mechanically holding out his old baseball cap. “I have nothing to give you,” said the stranger. Then he asked: “What’s that you are sitting on?” “Nothing,” replied the beggar. “Just an old box. I have been sitting on it for as long as I can remember.” “Ever looked inside?” asked the stranger. “No,” said the beggar. “What’s the point? There’s nothing in there.” “Have a look inside,” insisted the stranger. The beggar managed to pry open the lid. With astonishment, disbelief, and elation, he saw that the box was filled with gold.

The Child of God who does not take the time to open the box of faith that God has given each of us is missing out on the blessings of God. I’m not talking about riches. I’m talking about a life of peace and contentment. A peace and contentment that is beyond a mere mortal’s understanding. A life that gives strength in the moments when we need it most. A life that understands and trusts that God will be present when we need God most and God’s presence will unfold everything we need at that particular moment. A resurrected life is a life that does not want for any more than God wants us to have. Because we know that God knows what is best for each of us.

The 23rd Psalm tells us that “**the Lord is our Shepherd and we shall not want**.” This is true for the resurrected life because the things we want are in the will of God for us. We don’t want anything God has not ordained us to have. It is difficult for us who live in this materialistic world to see our lives bound up in the will of God to this degree. Because so much of who we are is locked up in the things we have or the things we have done, rather than with the Holy Spirit of God that is on the inside of us. However, this will change when we begin to acknowledge and believe that who we are, and what we have, truly

come from God. When we begin to trust that God has our best interest at heart and that God knows what is good for us; when we finally believe what Paul says to us in **2 Corinthians 4:7, "We have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.**" That we have a treasure inside of us that is greater than anything we can ever imagine on this earth. A treasure we have been sitting on. A treasure that has been buried for far too long. Our lives can be made differently. We can be made whole because this is possible. I encourage each of you to allow the Holy Spirit to become a friend. No longer treat the Holy Spirit of God as though the Holy Spirit is a stranger. Open your mind and your heart and allow the treasure (Holy Spirit) that is inside of you to bless you. Open up the doors of faith and allow the Holy Spirit to not only live inside you but guide your every step.

Blessings,
Pastor Gool