If you are following Jesus, you are a temple of the Holy Spirit.



THE SPIRIT WITHIN The new "holy of holies" is the heart given over to Jesus.



THE SPIRIT WITHIN

1 Corinthians 3:16-17

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

- The "you" in this passage is plural.
- NIV: "Don't you all know that you yourselves are God's temple?"
- The emphasis here is on our corporate identity.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

- The "you" in this passage is singular.
- The emphasis here is on our <u>individual</u> identity.
- "The presence of the Spirit in their present bodily existence is God's affirmation of the body."

Summary:

- 1. You (individually) are a temple of the Holy Spirit.
- 2. We (collectively) are the temple of the Holy Spirit.

Implications:

- This becomes an important filter for examining my behavior. "Am I using my body to glorify God? Or am I using it to indulge selfish, sinful desires?"
- The Christian life cannot be lived in isolation. There is no such thing as a "Lone Ranger" Christian.

Temples of the Spirit: "Do's" and "Don'ts"

- 1. 1 Thessalonians 5:19, Do not quench the Spirit.

 You can cooperate with the Spirit or quench Him.
- 2. Ephesians 4:30, Do not grieve the Spirit.

 Context is our speech. Speak the truth in love and avoid bitterness, anger, wrath, and slander.
- 3. Matthew 12:31-32, Do not blaspheme the Spirit.

 To blaspheme the Spirit is to deny the Spirit's testimony about Jesus.

Temples of the Spirit: "Do's" and "Don'ts"

- 1. Ephesians 5:18, Be filled with the Spirit.
- 2. Romans 8:14, Be led by the Spirit.
- 3. Galatians 5:16, Walk by the Spirit.

Each of these "do's" help explain and modify the others. When we are filled with the Spirit, we are led by the Spirit and we walk in step with the Spirit.

These scriptures encourage us to allow the Spirit to transform us from the inside-out.

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THE SPIRIT WITHIN