

# The Compulsion To Share

Spiritual experiences must be shared.

A decision to try to enjoy them by ourselves will eventually destroy them.

The reason for this is obvious.

The nearer we draw to God the greater our love will grow. The greater our love, the more unselfish we become.

The greater then becomes the compulsion within us to give to others what we have freely received.

Hence increased genuine spiritual experience brings a strong desire to let others know the same grace that we ourselves enjoy.

This naturally leads us to an increased effort to lead others to a closer and more satisfying fellowship with God.

**Acts 17:26** [Amplified Bible] *“And He [God] made from one common origin, one source, one blood all nations...”*

We all have a common Creator and a common source of physical life, our spiritual life also has a common source, God, and a common life power, the Holy Spirit.

**John 7:38-39** [NIV] *“Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.” By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.”*

The active Holy Spirit in us cannot be stagnant, He must flow through us out to others.

**Philippians 2:4-8** [NIV] *“Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death, even death on a cross!”*

Christ's [God's] attitude of mind is to share what He has with others, even to the point of sacrificing His own life.

The compulsion to share, to impart to others, accompanies any true encounter with God and spiritual things.

**John 4:28-29** [NIV] *“Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, “Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?”*

This is the response of the Samaritan woman whose encounter with Jesus Christ was a powerful spiritual experience.

**Matthew 5:14-16** [NIV] *“You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.”*

Christ is telling us very clearly that it is impossible to be a true disciple of His and keep it secret.

**Revelation 12:11** [NIV] *“They overcame him [Satan] by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.”*

Satan, the subject of this passage of scripture, was overcome by two things.

- a) The blood sacrifice of Jesus Christ.
- b) Our testimony, that is letting others know what Jesus Christ has done for us. How our lives have been dramatically changed by Him.

**Romans 10:10** [Living Bible] *“For it is by believing in their heart that a person becomes right with God, and then with his mouth he tells others of his faith, confirming his salvation.”*

This passage of scripture is usually understood, that God has laid upon us an arbitrary requirement to open our mouth in testimony before salvation can become effective within us.

Or it could mean that the testimony is evidence of the salvation that has come by faith to our heart.

Before we received the grace of God there was no compulsion to impart what had happened to us by a joyous out-rushing of words in a personal testimony.

This same intense urge to have others enjoy the same spiritual privileges as himself once caused Paul to make a statement so extreme, so reckless, that human reason cannot approve of it, only love can understand it.

**Romans 9:1-3** [NIV] *“I speak the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience confirms it in the Holy Spirit, I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race,”*

Paul goes to this extreme to make a powerful point, but he does later on in the same letter tell us all that we should become a *“living sacrifice”*.

**Romans 12:1** [NIV] *“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, this is your spiritual act of worship.”*

Why offer ourselves as a living sacrifice?

Because of what we have received through Jesus Christ, the grace of God.

We show the true value we place on God’s gift of grace by the extent we are willing to come out of our *“comfort zone”* and allow Christ’s grace to be shared with others who as yet do not know Christ.

Those who do not know Christ as Saviour or Christ as the Word of God, our Handbook For Life, the Christian Bible.

If we are truly grateful for God’s grace then we need to show it by giving of our life [time] to reach others with the gospel message.