

Reflections

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Our Disposition to Receive the Gifts of the Holy Spirit

What can we do and what should we do for the Spirit of God to come to us and fill us with His gifts? What should we do and what should our interior disposition be in order to attract and receive the Holy Spirit?

1. A first disposition: **We should, to a greater extent, awaken in our hearts the desire for the Holy Spirit and His gifts.** It is the same desire which the apostles and the Most Blessed Virgin had when they were gathered at the cenacle awaiting the promised Holy Spirit. It is the petition: Come, Holy Spirit! We anxiously wait for You because we are so weak, because we need your transforming power. We should awaken a deep longing for Him to take our education into His hands....our transformation into genuine children of God....into simple men and women with the soul of a child. Therefore, we must become men and women with a desire for the Spirit of God.

2. A second disposition: **We should make a greater effort to be silent, to be interiorly alone and tranquil.** It has to do with recollection and solitude, filled with God. The powers of the soul should not be concentrated on us but on God. Only in this way will we be able to listen to what the Holy Spirit murmurs to us. If in our surroundings, especially in our inner self, there is so much noise, so many strange voices, so much worldly spirit, then we will not be able to listen to the Holy Spirit. If we do not listen to Him, then we will not know what He wishes of us or what He suggests to us. In this way, we will never be aware of His presence in our soul and we will not believe in His working and in His influence in our life.

3. Another disposition is **humble prayer.** Father Kentenich says: "I believe the time has come for us to fold our hands and pray. We need prayer much more than we need exercise. Of course, this does not mean we have to quit practicing childlikeness.

Knowing we only possess the sails and that the Holy Spirit is the one who must inflate them, we feel totally dependent before God. We should then cultivate the heroism of humble prayer." We should be masters of prayer and humility.

4. A last disposition which attracts the Holy Spirit is the **Marian spirit.** We know that on the day of Pentecost, Mary was amid the apostles. We do not doubt that, especially by her powerful maternal petition, the Divine Spirit came upon each of them. In like manner, we must unite with Her as we wait for the Holy Spirit.

We must have heard at sometime the words of **St. Grignion de Montfort** which our Father and Founder so often repeated: The Holy Spirit would like to find the Most Holy Virgin in souls....He would like to find a Marian attitude and spirit....He would like to find a deep love for Mary. When He finds Mary in a soul, He can do nothing but penetrate that soul with His gifts and work miracles of transformation.

And the reason for this? As in the Incarnation, the Holy Spirit and the Virgin collaborated for Jesus to be born. In this manner, the Spirit of God today also wants to cooperate with Mary so that Christ, the Son of God, may be born and live in each soul.

Therefore, it is not a coincidence that Father Kentenich invites us to deepen our Covenant of Love and to seal that same **Covenant also with the Holy Spirit.** Then, He will give us His gifts, the gift of wisdom, so that we may all be able to conquer the spirit of childlikeness.

Questions for reflection

1. Do I have moments of silence during the day?
2. Do I consider myself a Marian person?
3. Have I thought about the Covenant with the Holy Spirit?

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