

Spirit or Me?

welcome to the ekklesia fellowship
February 26, 2006

in Adam, in Christ

- *Two weeks ago:* Count!
- *Last week:* the date of our crucifixion

-4000 BC
2006

- How then do we *live* in our newness?
 - Sin management or something deeper?

Spirit or Me

1. The cross in me.
 - **2 Corinthians 3:4-6**—if nothing comes from me, how is the world around me affected?
 - **John 6:63**
 - it is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits NOTHING.
 - How then does the Spirit affect the world around me through me?
2. The human condition:
 - Body, Soul, Spirit

Spirit or Me

- **1 Thessalonians 5:23**
 - Wholeness!
- **2 Corinthians 4:16** **18**
 - Inner & Outer man
 - How does the “inner man” get released?
- **Heb. 4:12; Eph. 6:17**
 - Only the Spirit can do the work of separating our inner and outer man.

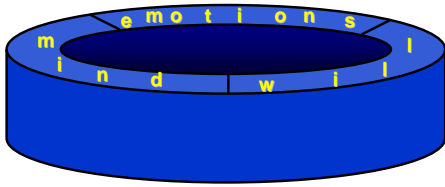
Spirit or Me

3. The release of the Spirit
 - **Matthew 21:42-44**
 - Only one way to the release of the Spirit: being broken, or the cross “in” me.
 - Life is always preceded with death! (**John 12:24**)
 - **2 Corinthians 4:7** **12**
 - Afflicted, perplexed, persecuted, struck down.
 - These are our Lord’s instruments to break us of our outer man so that He can affect those around us.

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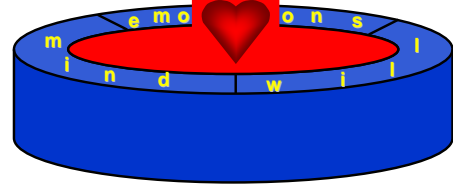
Our soulish man
 • ruled by the mind, will, and emotions

Spirit or Me



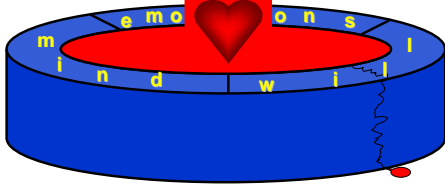
Before giving Christ Lordship of our lives.

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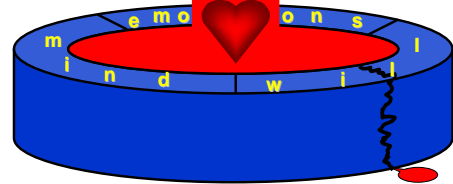
After giving Christ Lordship of our lives.

Spirit or Me



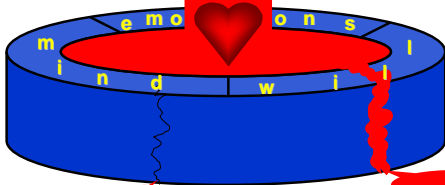
The Spirit begins the work of breaking us.
Why? Because we're too mixed to be of use

Spirit or Me



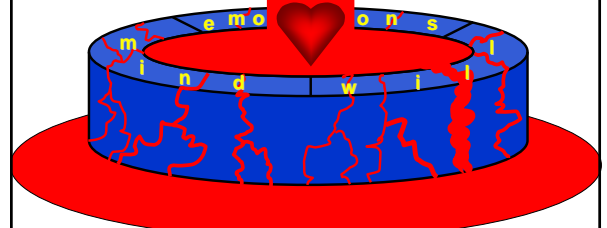
The Spirit continues the breaking process.

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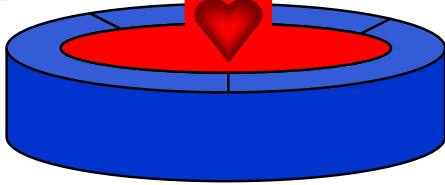
The Spirit continues the breaking process.

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Paul's resume of brokenness: [2 Corinthians 11:23-27](#)

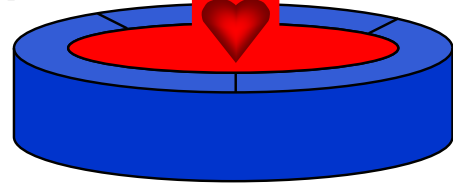
Spirit or Mind?



Two Groups:

1. Those who resist the breaking work of the Spirit (either because of resistance or ignorance).
2. Those who have been crushed in life.

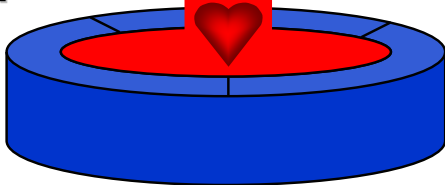
Spirit or Mind?



Those who resist the breaking work of the Spirit – *an unbroken WILL*

- I can do it!
- God needs me! (and will tell you all about it)
- *They've got it all together!*

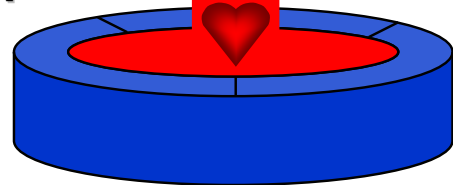
Spirit or Mind?



Those who resist the breaking work of the Spirit – *unbroken EMOTIONS*

- Overly sensitive
- Easily offended or angered
- *Shut down or blow up really quickly!*

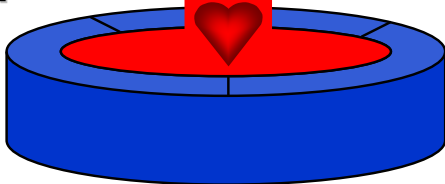
Spirit or Mind?



Those who resist the breaking work of the Spirit – *unbroken dependence on the MIND*

- Very critical of others; judgmental
- Quick to speak; answers to everything, just ask!
- *Compare themselves to people constantly!*

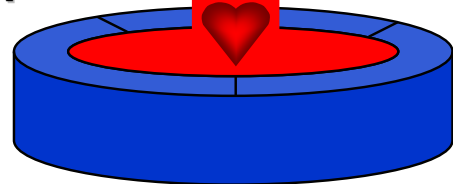
Spirit or Mind?



The unbroken:

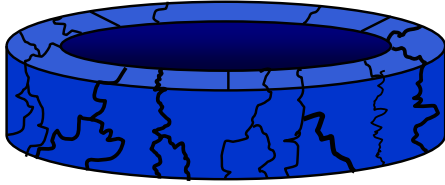
- Try their best to “have it all together”
- Too busy hiding their flaws and imperfections
- We rarely experience spirit-to-spirit contact with unbroken people. (Who are you, really?)
- **1 Corinthians 3:1-3**

Spirit or Mind?



This is the group I fell into for too many years! I was more focused on “sin management” than allowing the Spirit to work through my flaws, weaknesses and screw ups.

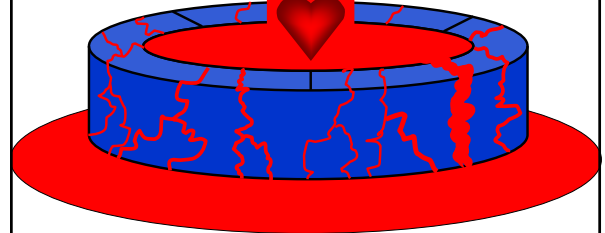
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And then there is the second group:

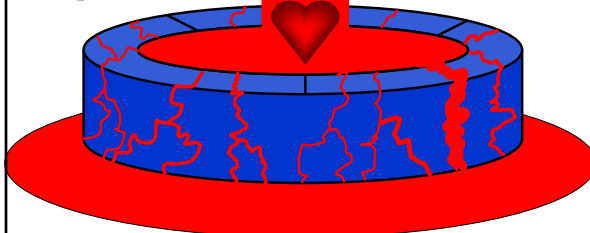
- Who Jesus calls “blessed” (Matt. 5:3)

Spirit or Me



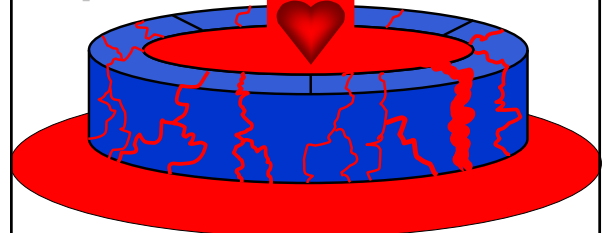
Matthew 12:3 – “*pure*” not mingled with the flesh – everything coming from Him, nothing coming from me.

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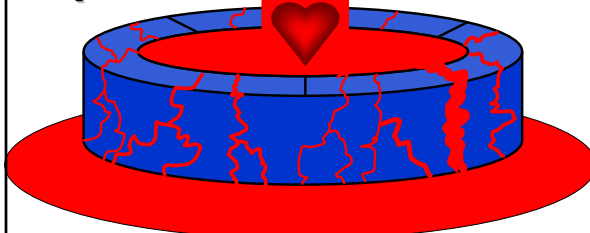
Since it is only the Spirit who gives life, do people in your life encounter **you** or the **Spirit** through you?

Spirit or Me



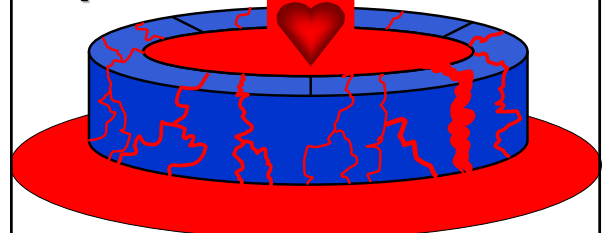
It's okay to not get your way.

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It's okay to talk to someone who has bad breath.

Spirit or Me



It's okay to talk to someone who doesn't believe like you do.

Spirit or M



It's okay to talk to someone who has a cigarette or beer in their hand.

Spirit or M



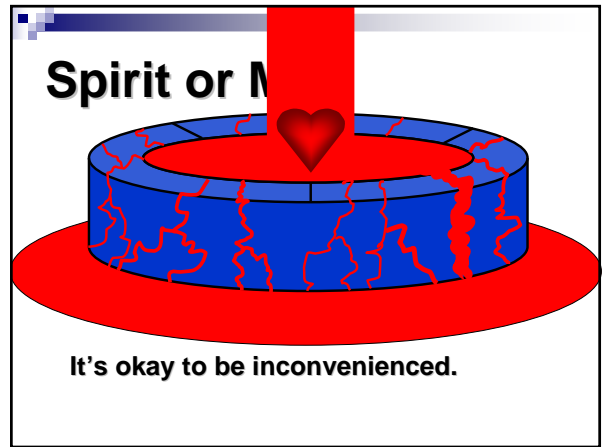
It's okay to be wronged.
Really. It's okay.

Spirit or M



It's okay to not know the answers.

Spirit or M



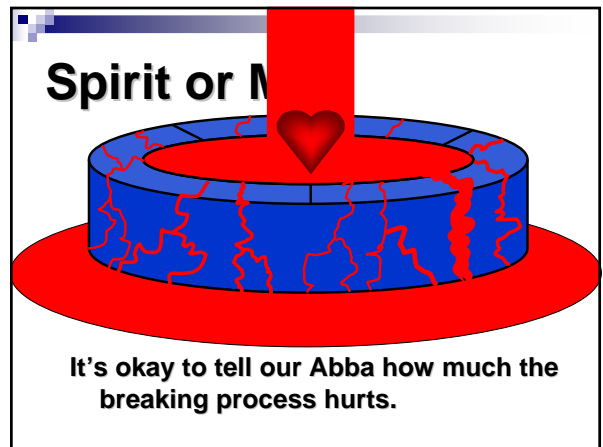
It's okay to be inconvenienced.

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It's okay to cry when it hurts.

Spirit or M



It's okay to tell our Abba how much the breaking process hurts.

Spirit or M



Is the Spirit at work in you tonight, this week, this month, this year?

Spirit or M



Pain and hurt are inevitable, but misery and grumbling are quite optional.

Spirit or M



Are your inner and outer persons mingled together?

Spirit or M



Might the Spirit be at work in your life to break and refine you?

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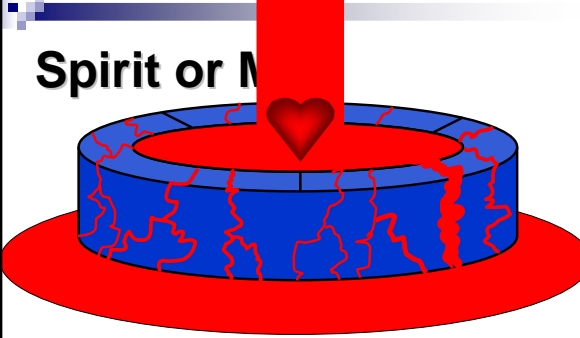
Are you resisting His work?

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Have you ever thanked Him for His breaking work in You?

Spirit or M



... if I have to boast, I will boast of what pertains to my weakness ... (Paul)

Spirit or M



And I *know* (in my heart) that God causes all things – the good, the bad and the ugly – to work together for His good and me good, because I love Him, He loves me, and He has called me. (Rom 8:28ish)