

**April 29, 2023**

The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.

**1 Cor. 1:4-9** *I always thank my God for you because of His grace given you in Christ Jesus. For in Him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge—God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. Therefore, you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (NIV)*

Here is some interesting information about the difference between regular and enriched bread. Unlike other bread doughs that consist of flour, water, yeast and salt (lean doughs), enriched dough includes fats, sugar and dairy. These extra ingredients leave you with a rich, buttery bread with an exceptionally tender crumb. I thought of this when I was meditating on this passage from Paul to the church at Corinth. Paul tells them that in Christ, they had been enriched in every way. There is something extra in them that was not there before. In hindsight, we know that this is the dwelling of the Holy Spirit in every believer. And because of this, they are experiencing real and abundant life--enriched life! This produced an active knowledge and sharing of the gospel.

When you know Jesus, you will want to share Jesus. It is kneaded into us by the very Spirit of our God. Just as enriched bread is different than regular bread, we are also different. We speak differently, live differently and love differently. People will know that there is something different about us. As the old chorus says, *“They will know we are Christians by our love, by our love. They will know we are Christians by our love.”* - **Justin Unger**

How could we possibly believe that the enriching of the Holy Spirit in our lives would not make a difference? He does, period! I’ve seen many ‘church members’ who don’t seem to be enriched. They carry the name, but not the Spirit. It is time for every person who is called a Christian, to make sure that they are enriched. It comes from Him alone and the fellowship with Jesus by the Holy Spirit.

**Dear LORD, thank You for enriching us with Your Spirit. You make all the difference in our lives. We have truly come to a place of real and abundant life that can only happen in You. Thank You LORD. In Jesus Name, Amen**