

August 9, 2023

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

Rom. 5:5 *And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, Who has been given to us. (NIV)*

“Don’t move the funnel.” These words were a part of my upbringing on the farm. You see, as a very ‘active’ young boy, keeping steady was a challenge. Sometimes, the tractor would start to run out of gas while we were in the west field. This would be too far to get back and get gas. And so, my Grandpa would bring a five-gallon gas can over to put into the tractor gas tank. The fuel tank was located on top of the fuselage, which to a nine-year-old boy, was pretty high off the ground. I would climb out onto the tractor and hold the funnel so that my grandpa could pour in the gas. This picture reminds me of today’s passage. I believe the LORD is continually pouring out His Spirit upon us, but we are sometimes too busy to allow the Spirit to flow into us. We need to keep our funnel still. This is keeping our hearts and our minds fixed on Him. To do this, we must hold onto the thought of God’s love. You see, God loves you more than anyone else could ever love you. He has proven His love to us by paying for our sins and giving us abundant and eternal life. And then I can just imagine Him saying to me, ‘don’t move the funnel’ as He is continually pouring the fuel of the Spirit into His children. Now what is truly beautiful to me is the fact that His love and His Spirit will never run out. We will continually abide in Him if we will not move the funnel. He tells us to ‘be still and know that I Am God.’ It is tough to be still because this world pulls us this way and that. We don’t leave His presence, but instead we are easily side-tracked by all of the things around us that vie for our attention. I believe this is what is meant in **2 Chron. 16:9** *For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to Him. (NIV)* Let’s live this day by keeping our eyes fixed on the author and perfecter of our faith. Let’s ‘be still’ and know that He is God.

Dear LORD, help us to ‘be still’ and know that You are God. Pour out Your Spirit upon us today. Help us to allow Your Spirit to fill us and to overflow to those around us. Thank You for Your unfailing love. In Jesus Name, Amen