

My descriptor of the Spirit can be “A man of integrity touched by the tranquility and love of Christ.” This is when I take the optimal portions of my human spirit and combine it with the Holy Spirit. The best of me that is to come is the future version of myself that is filled with the Spirit and filled with love for others. In my current spiritual state, although I know I should love others as much as myself as in reference to Leviticus 19:18, I do not truly adhere to that biblical principal. I also do not think that I am developed enough as a spiritual leader to be fully capable of leading others. After all, in the class, I learned to never speak or preach about things beyond what I know. Thus, before I can help others, I need to help myself as I will never bring believers of Christ beyond my current level of spirituality. The best of what I have been given by the Lord is my listening, writing, and preaching skills, although my social skills do need more work. I would like to utilize these skills to make my vision or dream into a reality where God is given the glory. The optimal choice would be the utilization of my gifting and my anointing to become socially and spiritually mature. As Professor Sanders states, “Do not tell me how you find the Spirit; tell me how you walk in step with the Spirit” in reference to Galatians 5.

Two things I would implement in the next six months are having real conversations with nonbelievers in order to evangelize them and mentor them and also to build credibility as a spiritual leader as I am a children’s pastor. With the first goal, since I do not have any atheist friends, I wish to make a number of them, preferably one by one by cultivating a relationship and avoiding religious language until the golden opportunity to share my faith reveals itself. I can do this by venturing outside of my home to different public places more often. I can build credibility as a spiritual leader by becoming a children’s pastor in a church that is not my home church. Other ways to do this is to be more in tune with the Holy Spirit to reveal insightful pieces of information to the people seeking my counsel which are about them.

