



## UNPLUGGED IN THE SPIRIT

OCTOBER 7, 2024

**2 TIMOTHY 3:5 NKJV – (5)** having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!

"Unplugged in the Spirit" is a concept that suggests that unplugging from the world can help people become more self-regulated and tune into the Holy Spirit. Some say that Jesus was able to accomplish his challenging work because he was rested and renewed in God.

Don't be deceived! Many are not renewed or plugged in to Jesus. Therefore, they look as if they have a form of godliness, but their power is unplugged. Unplugged from the source named Jesus.

The power of God, which should accompany the form of godliness, is shown through the Holy Spirit and results in the transformation of our lives. The Holy Spirit indwells the believer (**1 Corinthians 6:19**) and enables him to bear certain fruit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (**Galatians 5:22–23**). These are the attributes of a true Christian, as opposed to Paul's list of sins in **2 Timothy 3:1–4**.

"The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned" (**1 Corinthians 2:14**).

The natural person may have a form of godliness, but he denies God's power in the way he lives. Only faith in Jesus Christ can bring justification and the transformation he so desperately needs (**Colossians 1:21–22; Romans 5:1–2**).

After a lengthy description of evil people, Paul gives a blunt application: "**Avoid such people.**" Two important observations can be made here.

**First**, this advice is in a personal letter to Timothy, so the wicked ones Paul is referring to existed when this letter was written. Paul had specific people in mind whom Timothy was to avoid. These people could tempt him to sin or turn him from true teaching.

**Second**, however, avoiding false teachers is somewhat different than dealing with other people. Paul clearly taught elsewhere that avoiding absolutely all contact with sinful persons is impossible (**1 Corinthians 5:9–10**).

### SCRIPTURE READING

**TITUS 1:16**

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

A powerless church has nothing for the devil to counterfeit.