

FINAL NOTE



Renewed by the Spirit

Three cars in my orbit have needed their battery jumped in the last month. Blame it on age and cold weather; in one case, perhaps on infrequent use. Each time I try to help, I carefully review the instructions on my decade-old jumper cable case. I know enough to know that if I do it wrong, it could cause serious damage. It is a thrilling feeling each time to hear the car, just seconds ago dead as a doornail, make that familiar v-v-v-vroom sound.

A car with a dead battery is powerless to start on its own, and we, too, can find ourselves drained—lacking the strength, wisdom, or courage to move forward in faith. A car needs a power source beyond itself to get going again. In the same way, we need the empowerment of the Holy Spirit to be renewed and equipped.

Romans 8:11 reminds us, “And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.” The Holy Spirit doesn’t just give us a small boost—this is the same power that raised Christ from the dead!

When we rely on our own strength, we can quickly run out of energy. But when we surrender to the Spirit, new life is breathed into us—charging us with boldness, guiding us in truth, and equipping us for the work ahead. Just as jumper cables transfer power from a fully charged battery to one that is dead, the Holy Spirit connects us to the limitless power of God, giving us life and all that we need to serve him.

I pray that we will each experience this renewal—that we will be recharged and empowered by the Spirit’s presence, walking forward in his strength, ready for all that God has called us to do.

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