

THE HOLY SPIRIT

Who is the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is not an impersonal force. He is a person. The Bible uses personal pronouns when speaking of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is affected by our actions and attitudes. He can be grieved, resisted, insulted, etc (see Acts 5:1-3 & 7:51, Eph 4:30, 1 Thes 5:19, Heb 10:29). The Holy Spirit possesses the attributes of God: He is omnipresent, omnipotent, omniscient, eternal, holy, and creator (see Psalm 139:7-10, Luke 1:35, John 14:26 & 16:12-13, Heb 9:14, Rom 1:4, Job 33:4 & Psalm 104:30). The Holy Spirit is one with God and, at the same time is His own distinct person (see Acts 5:3-4, Matt 28:19 & Like 3:21-22). Before we were Christians the Holy Spirit was with us, convicting us of sin and drawing us to Christ (see John 16:8). When we become Christians, the Holy Spirit comes and dwells in us (see John 14:16-17 & 20:22, 1 Cor 3:16). The Holy Spirit is given to us by the Father and is to be a helper to us.

What the Holy Spirit does

In John 14-16, Jesus teaches His disciples about the Holy Spirit. From this section of scripture we learn that the Holy Spirit will be a helper like Jesus; teach us all things; bring all things to remembrance that Jesus has said to us; testify of Christ; convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgement; guide us into all truth; not speak of His own authority but will speak what He hears from Jesus; tell us things to come; glorify Jesus; and take of what is Jesus' and declare it to us.

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit gives gifts to everyone who believe in Christ Jesus. The gifts of the Spirit are apostleship, prophecy, evangelism, pastoring, teaching, exhortation, knowledge, wisdom, discerning of spirits, leadership, administration, service/helps, acts of mercy, giving, healing, faith, miracles, speaking in tongues and interpreting tongues (see Rom 12, 1 Cor 12, and Eph 4). God has given us these gifts to use for His glory and for the edification of the body of Christ.

Fruit of the Holy Spirit

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control (see Gal 5:22-23). When we give our lives to Jesus, the fruit of the Spirit should become evident in our lives. It is not something that we need to strive for. All we need to do is abide in Jesus and the fruit of the Spirit will become evident in our lives (see John 15:4-5).

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

The Greek language describes our experience with the Holy Spirit in three ways: para, en, and epi. Before we gave our lives to the Lord, we experienced the Holy Spirit in the para. Para means “with.” Even though we did not know the Lord, the Holy Spirit was with us, convicting us of sin and drawing us to Jesus. When we become Christians, the Holy Spirit comes and dwells in us. En in the Greek means “in.” The third way in which we experience the Holy Spirit is “epi,” which means “upon” and is often referred to as the baptism of the Holy Spirit. When we are baptized with the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit comes upon us, empowering us for a specific ministry which the Lord has for us.

Bible Study on the Holy Spirit

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

According to Acts 2:38 & Eph 1:13-14, how do we receive the Holy Spirit?

Who gives us the Holy Spirit? (See John 14:16 & 15:26)

Who is the Holy Spirit in relation to God the Father and Jesus? (See Acts 2:33, Eph 2:18, 1 John 5:7) (Note: Jesus is called the Word in John 1)

WHAT DOES THE HOLY SPIRIT DO?

Read the following passages and write down what we are told the Holy Spirit will do for us.

a) John 14-16

b) Titus 3:4-7

c) 1 Cor 3:16 & 6:19

d) Romans 8:26-27

e) Eph 1:13-14

f) 2 Thes 2:13-14

Bible Study on the Holy Spirit

FRUIT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Read Galatians 5. What is the fruit of the Spirit?

What is **not** the fruit of the Spirit?

How is the fruit of the Spirit manifested in our lives? (See John 15)

Bible Study on the Holy Spirit

GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Read 1 Corinthians 12.

According to verses 4-6, does everyone have the same gifts?

Is there anyone who does not have at least one gift according to verse 7?

For whose benefit does God give these gifts?

What are some examples of gifts in verse 8-10?

Who chooses to give these gifts? (See verse 11)

According to verse 31, what can we pray for?

What is the greatest gift according to Paul in 1 Cor 13:13?

Paul makes some very strong statements in 1 Cor 13:1-3 concerning the importance of love. In these verses, which is more important: using our gifts or showing love?

Why?

Bible Study on the Holy Spirit

THE BODY OF CHRIST

Whose body is it according to 1 Cor 12:27?

Are all the members in a church body the same according to 1 Cor 12:14 & 17 and Rom 12:4-5?

Who gives us our place in the body? (See 1 Cor 12:18 and Eph 4:11-12)

According to 1 Cor 12:21-25 and 1 Pet 4:10, are we all needed in the body?

Why?

Do we need the other members of the body? (See 1 Cor 12:21-26)

Why?

Who is the head of the body? (See Col 1:18 and Eph 1:22)